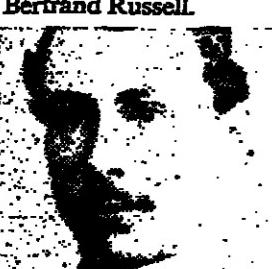


THE TIMES

Saturday

10 of the best  
... in the Saturday  
Section on:  
Snow business  
Four pages of the latest  
news and views on  
skiing  
Present...  
Values: How to find  
those special presents  
... and past  
The locked diaries of  
Bertrand Russell.



Anthony Quinton on the  
early life of the  
philosopher  
Try...  
David Hands previews  
Scotland's rugby match  
against the All Blacks at  
Murrayfield  
... harder  
Big business and the  
military in Honduras call  
on Kissinger for an  
armed solution for  
Central America

## Concorde may fly to Miami

British Airways has filed a request with the US Federal Aviation Administration to extend Concorde supersonic flights to Miami. The airline says it has not yet decided whether to use the aircraft to serve Miami, but flights could begin by next spring.

### Falklands ban

The United States will not supply Argentina with sophisticated weapons that could be used to invade the Falklands once the ban on American arms is lifted, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told journalists.

### Liberal dispute

After points of order in the Commons, the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, declined to comment on an article in *The Times* by Mr Russell Johnson, the Liberal MP, calling for more time for Liberal speakers in parliamentary debates.

Parliamentary report, page 4

### Lloyd's chief

Mr Peter North Miller, a Lloyd's broker, has been elected to succeed Sir Peter Green as chairman of the London insurance market. Page 17

### Synod accepts

New procedures for deciding which divorced people should be allowed remarriage in church have been accepted by the General Synod of the Church of England. Page 3

### Labour choice

Mr Norman Hogg, MP for Cumbernauld and Kilsyth, has become Labour's deputy chief whip. He defeated Mr Don Concannon, MP for Mansfield, by 117 votes to 79 in a second ballot.

### Muzorewa eats

Bishop Abel Muzorewa has ended his hunger strike after eight days, according to the Zimbabwe Government.

### Wembley plan

A £300m plan for the development of the Wembley Stadium site, which covers 80 acres in north London, will include a new multi-purpose arena. Page 2

### Connors fined

Jimmy Connors won his match against Hank Pfister in the Benson & Hedges championships at Wembley, but lost financially when he was fined £643 for audible and visual obscenities. Page 22

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Letters: On university cuts from Ms Diana Warwick; Crown Agents, from Sir John Cuckney; remarriage, from Mr N. Earle, and the Rev R. G. Dennis.  
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# Syrians braced for attack after firing on US jets

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The new American naval task force, led by the aircraft carrier Independence, steamed into Lebanese territorial waters last night as the Syrian Army in Lebanon braced itself for a possible attack by United States jets after a day of intense air activity.

It began in an unprecedented and ominous confrontation in the skies over northern Lebanon just after dawn, when Syrian anti-aircraft guns opened fire on four American F14 Tomcat fighter-interceptors on an unexplained "reconnaissance" mission in the northern Bekaa Valley. Last night United States jets were again racing at low level across Beirut towards the central mountains.

Apparently fearing an imminent United States attack on Syrian forces, Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, made a hurried, unpublicised trip to Moscow during the morning while American and Israeli jets, apparently acting in cooperation, flew separate reconnaissance missions over Mount Lebanon and the Sannine Heights east of Beirut.

Confirming that United States aircraft were shot at by Syrian ground defences, spokesmen in Washington did not explain why their aircraft - officially operating with the four-national multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut - should be flying so far from the capital, but Syrian state radio referred to the F14s as "enemy planes" and said they had been "driven off" by Syria's air defence system.

ON PAGE SIX

Truce collapses  
Israel call-up ends  
Photographs

had happened, on the ground that it never discussed "reconnaissance flights", though radio traffic between French and American aircraft during the morning suggested some incident had occurred over Beirut.

"Electronic traffic" - as the multinational force officers inevitably call air-to-ground radio contacts - became so heavy at 11.30am that it seemed likely the Americans were preparing some form of air operation. In the early afternoon, the jets that had been criss-crossing the city at low altitude returned to their arid carriers, but they were back again after dark.

The right-wing Phalange "Voice of Lebanon" radio claimed yesterday that the Americans had observed Syrian troops bringing their new

missiles ground-to-ground SS21 missiles onto the eastern slopes of the Sammine Heights.

While this report is almost certainly nonsense, the Syrians have been bringing more field artillery onto the lower slopes of the mountains, as well as anti-aircraft guns.

American diplomats in Beirut admit that the arrival of the new task force, which has temporarily brought together an armada of 29 US warships off Beirut, represents a "very dynamic period" in Lebanon.

But they will say no more than that.

Fearful that the Americans

really intend to take some form of military revenge for the

sabotage bombing of their Marine

headquarters in Beirut last month, and that this would

destroy the results of last week's

reconciliation conference in Geneva, President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon is urgently seeking an audience with President Reagan.

The Americans, however,

may be less than sympathetic,

since they have realized the

degree to which the conference

delegates are already breaking

the promises made in Geneva.

Mr Fady Frey, the Phalange

militia commander, for

example, has disputed the

conference's agreement that

Lebanon has an "Arab identity".

The Druse are already

accusing the Phalange of going

back on their commitment, and

for two days fierce artillery

bombardments have been going

on between the two sides south of Aley.

He had never, the Kenyan

chief of protocol conceded, seen

a crowd like it. Even a

Buckingham Palace official,

who has seen a crowd or two in

his time, was moved to the

highest respect.

An estimated half-million

people lined the eight-mile

route from Jomo Kenyatta

Airport to Nairobi yesterday to

witness the passage of the

Queen on her first full state

visit to Kenya since the tidings

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After an overnight stop in

Cyprus, the British Airways

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The Queen's presence repays

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# County court changes will increase bad debts, traders tell Hailsham

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marybone, the Lord Chancellor, has decided to go ahead with planned cuts in numbers of county court bailiffs and in their duties, which traders say will lead to a massive increase in bad debts and more expensive consumer credit.

Mr John Patrick, director of the Consumer Credit Trade Association, told *The Times* yesterday that the changes in county court rules would cost the retail trade as much as £15m to £20m a year in bad debts and could add £4 to each credit transaction. The figures were calculated from trials, by the association's members, of measures to be taken as the result of the Lord Chancellor's decision.

The county court rule committee, which meets today will draw up the necessary rule, an official of the Lord Chancellor's Department said.

Bailiffs' work will be cut by increasing the minimum level for a part warrant of execution from £15 to £5.

The warrant is issued by the court at the request of the creditor for part of the outstanding debt. Broadly speaking, it applies where a court has made an order for repayment by instalments. The amount for which the warrant is now issued cannot be less than one £50 instalment, now less than £15.

The new £50 minimum will reduce numbers of warrants issued. The 1,100 county court bailiffs are planned to be reduced by about one third.

Economies will also be made in serving of summonses. Instead of the plaintiff choosing how a summons can be served to notify the debtor of a claim, it will be served by a bailiff.

A deputation from the retail trade, credit business and consumer interests has failed to convince the Lord Chancellor that, whereas people may be able to pay instalments of £15, £50 will be beyond many of them.

A trial by one company to measure the effect of using £50

warrants instead of £25 warrants, the average value now issued on its behalf, showed a big increase in failure to retrieve debts. The proportion of abortive warrants increased from 40 per cent to 75 per cent.

It will still be open to the bailiff to remove goods to cover the value of the warrant, but the retail trade argues that to satisfy a £50 warrant, goods of several hundred pounds may have to be seized, increasing distress.

The argument put to the Lord Chancellor was that, as plaintiffs would have to apply through the courts for an attachment of earnings order, the cost of the extra work would outweigh the savings to be made in other directions. The caseload would grow and there would be an increase in the number of hearings. The retail trade and credit organizations say that delays of four to six months to get a hearing and an effective order are usual.

## Record tax burden under Tory rule

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The burden of taxes in Britain has risen steeply to record heights since the Government took office in 1979, according to official figures released yesterday.

Taxes as a proportion of total economic output rose from 39.6 per cent in 1979 to 45.7 per cent in 1982. That compares with a peak of 40.2 per cent in 1975 under the previous Labour government and 38.2 per cent in its last year of office in 1978.

The figures, published in the October issue of *Economic Trends*, show that all forms of taxes except those on capital took a bigger share. Taxes on income rose from 14.7 per cent of economic output in 1979 to 17.2 per cent in 1982, taxes on spending (including rates from 17.5 per cent to 20.1 per cent) and national insurance contributions from 6.8 per cent to 7.7 per cent.

\*gross national product at factor cost

Source: Economic Trends

## NHS 'must prune back staff'

By Nicholas Timmins

The National Health Service should be much more willing to get rid of people who do not come up to scratch, Mr Michael Carlisle, the chairman of the Trent Region Health Authority said yesterday.

Mr Carlisle said leadership and motivation were crucial in the health service, and it was people who made it work.

"If they do not prove, or prove ineffective, then we should tell them so, and I do feel that there is more difference in doing that in the NHS than elsewhere. If they cannot be trained or improved they must be replaced."

Mr Carlisle was speaking at a conference of the Association of Health Service Treasurers at which Mr Roy Griffiths, the deputy chairman and managing director of Sainsbury's, was given a generally warm reception for his report on revamping health service management.

Mr Griffiths, who is to join the new health service supervisory board his recommendations created, said he hoped the management board that would operate beneath it would provide the service with an "umbrella" to protect it against sudden and unthought-out change.

The national executive of the print union Sogat '82 has bowed to a TUC instruction to expel the breakaway electricians, but they remain members of the London machine branch.

Mr Sean Geraghty, their leader, said last night: "We will be going after the employers for recognition."

• Leaders of the electricians' union meeting in Blackpool, yesterday fended off attempts by left-wingers to get the ban on communists holding office lifted.



The victors: The six boys after their High Court appearance in London yesterday (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

## Boys win reprieve for home

By a Staff Reporter

Six teenage boys from "deprived and unstable" backgrounds won a reprieve in the High Court yesterday for a children's home they say has given them a better chance in life.

Mr Justice McCulloch ruled that Solihull council in the West Midlands must think again about the closure date for the 18-bed home, Richmond House. But he made no ruling on the council's earlier decision that the home would have to close at some time.

When councillors decided

that the home should close in September they should have considered the welfare of each individual child. But he was satisfied they did not. That decision must be quashed.

The boys' earlier won a temporary order keeping the home open pending the outcome of yesterday's hearing.

The judge said the council might now decide to close another home instead.

The boys' counsel, Lord Gifford, QC, told the judge yesterday that they had had deprived and unstable lives. At Richmond House they found

closing it down. The decision means that the lives of the boys there may now become a bit more stable.

"I think it is wrong for them to close the home, because if means that kids who have been in trouble and come onto care will have to go to homes that cannot cater for their needs and will probably get back into trouble again."

"It was our own decision to take court action after we had a children's meeting, and I would urge any children in a similar situation to fight it."

BET's subsidiary, BET Leisure Holdings Ltd, yesterday signed heads of agreement, subject to contract, with the consortium, which is led by Arena Ltd.

Arena Ltd was formed specifically for the purpose, and its shareholders include Sir Hugh Willatt, Lord Marshall of Leeds, Mr John Silkin, the Labour MP, whose firm of solicitors is advising the consortium, Mr Logan Gourlay, Mr Raymond Doyle, Mr Frederick Khan, Mr Benjamin Fizzi and from the United States, Mr Irving Mitchell Fizzi.

The evidence, given to the backbench Conservative MP's environment committee, came in a letter from Consortium Developments, which represents some of the biggest building companies to a property owner in the Hart district area of rural Hampshire. It said that several locations in the South-east could accommodate a new community, each averaging about 700 acres.

Mr R. A. J. Bennett, the executive director of Consortium Developments, described the CPRE's use of the letter as "hysterical".

Last year the Wembley Stadium company generated profits of just under £2m before tax.

## Fleet Street rebels vote to defy TUC

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A new labour relations crisis in Fleet Street came closer yesterday when "dissident" electricians rejected the advice of the TUC to rejoin the union they quit several months ago.

Nearly 500 former members of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union voted, with only two against, to stay out of the Eetu and seek recognition from newspaper publishers.

The national executive of the print union Sogat '82 has bowed to a TUC instruction to expel the breakaway electricians, but they remain members of the London machine branch.

Mr Sean Geraghty, their leader, said last night: "We will be going after the employers for recognition."

## New threat claimed to Green Belt land

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The builders a much freer rein to go where they wish, "which will usually mean into our unspoilt countryside".

The evidence, given to the backbench Conservative MP's environment committee, came in a letter from Consortium Developments, which represents some of the biggest building companies to a property owner in the Hart district area of rural Hampshire. It said that several locations in the South-east could accommodate a new community, each averaging about 700 acres.

Mr R. A. J. Bennett, the executive director of Consortium Developments, described the CPRE's use of the letter as "hysterical".

Last year the Wembley Stadium company generated profits of just under £2m before tax.

## Heathrow threat by BCAL

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Some charter flights may have to be moved from Gatwick to Stansted if British Caledonian succeeds in taking routes and aircraft away from state-owned British Airways, the British Airports Authority said yesterday.

But that would have far less impact on air traffic policy than British Caledonian's threat to transfer all its operations from Gatwick to Heathrow.

The independent airline said last week it would take that action if it failed to persuade the Government to give it some of British Airways' assets before privatization.

Such a move would threaten to break the ceiling of 275,000 air traffic movements a year which the Government has set for Heathrow. The airport already handles 257,000 movements and if BCAL moved to Heathrow, other Gatwick-based airlines such as Cathay Pacific, Air New Zealand and Delta would undoubtedly put pressure on the Government to make similar transfers, adding up to 40,000 movements a year.

Heathrow is regarded as the most convenient airport.

Mr Norman Payne, British Airports Authority chairman, announcing the half-year results yesterday, reported that a 23 per cent increase in pre-tax operating profit, from £50.5m to £60.9m, up to the end of September.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has appointed an economic hardliner and enthusiastic advocate of privatization to head her Downing Street Policy Unit. Mr John Redwood, aged 32, joined her private think tank last month on secondment from N. M. Rothschild and Co. He will take over in January on a salary of £27,000.

Mr Redwood, who succeeds Mr Ferdinand Mount, fought as

## Heseltine admits 'dual key' on Lance missiles

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, admitted yesterday in a letter to Dr David Owen that there is "de facto" dual key control over the British-owned Lance battlefield missiles deployed in West Germany.

The letter immediately brought a renewed claim from the SDP leader that the Government was not acting in accordance with past precedent in its refusal of a dual-key mechanism for cruise missiles and that it was seeking to obscure the issues.

Mr Heseltine wrote to clarify remarks he had made in last week's Commons debate. He said that the Lance missile's nuclear warheads, in accordance with normal practice, remained under American custody, and that "hence there is a de facto form of dual key which depends on the physical separation of the missile and the warhead."

Although the hearing will be confined to deciding whether the court has jurisdiction, Ms Helena Kennedy, the women's lawyer, is confident that much of the evidence compiled by 20 witnesses will be admissible.

It ranges from arguments about international law and conventions, to scientific and medical evidence on the effects of nuclear war.

## Thatcher picks hardliner

By David Walker

Conservative candidate in the Peckham by-election in south-east London a year ago. He is a specialist on pensions.

His joining the unit prompted speculation that the Prime Minister is considering legislation on the transferability of pensions between private firms and possibly also on reviewing the earnings-related state pension scheme inherited from Labour in 1979.

## Radioactive waste put on council tip

By Mark Rossell

Radioactive waste has been dumped several times at a public refuse site near a housing estate in Billingham, Cleveland. People living in the town are already angry at government plans to dispose of nuclear waste in a disused ICI mine 600ft below ground.

Yesterday Cleveland County Council admitted that eight loads of radioactive material from a Hartlepool factory had been buried at Cowpen Bewley tip by council workers.

The statement was issued after Mr Gordon McClean, a local Transport and General Workers' Union official, claimed that the workers involved were now "frantically worried" that they might have been contaminated.

Mr Frank Cook, Labour MP for Stockton North, said yesterday that the second dumping involved two 3-ton lorry loads of 30 metal drums. The drums were covered by a metre of household rubbish, and a bulldozer was driven over the rubbish to compact it. He added that the drums may have ruptured.

The council was asked to dispose of the waste believed to be contaminated overalls and cleaning matter, after a leak of radioactive material at Foster Wheeler Power Products in Hartlepool.

Yesterday, Mr Albert Hall, the assistant county surveyor and engineer, said that six loads of waste were buried during last January and February, and a further two loads were buried last September.

## £300m plan for new Wembley complex

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A £300m plan for development at the Wembley Stadium site, which covers 80 acres including the hallowed green turf at its centre, was announced yesterday by the British Electric Traction Company.

It is to go into partnership with a specially-formed consortium which intends to spend £300m over the next 10 years. Central to the consortium's plans is a new, multi-purpose indoor arena incorporating the latest technological advances and intended to be the best in the world.

An official of the Sports Council said that Wembley had long been its preferred site for a national indoor arena, and if the council now make a definite decision in favour of Wembley it would be prepared to make a substantial investment.

A feasibility study will be undertaken immediately after the agreements of the new partnership have been completed in January. A programme of refurbishment for the existing stadium has already been agreed with the Football Association and is in progress.

Under the new ownership, no changes in the management and staff at Wembley are expected and all the activities of Wembley Stadium, itself a listed building, will continue without interruption. Extra staff will be employed as the developments proceed, and it is intended to have a wider range of activities and events.

BET's subsidiary, BET Leisure Holdings Ltd, yesterday signed heads of agreement, subject to contract, with the consortium, which is led by Arena Ltd.

Arena Ltd was formed specifically for the purpose, and its shareholders include Sir Hugh Willatt, Lord Marshall of Leeds, Mr John Silkin, the Labour MP, whose firm of solicitors is advising the consortium, Mr Logan Gourlay, Mr Raymond Doyle, Mr Frederick Khan, Mr Benjamin Fizzi and from the United States, Mr Irving Mitchell Fizzi.

The evidence, given to the backbench Conservative MP's environment committee, came in a letter from Consortium Developments, which represents some of the biggest building companies to a property owner in the Hart district area of rural Hampshire. It said that several locations in the South-east could accommodate a new community, each averaging about 700 acres.

It is the latest shot in the CPRE's campaign against the Government's proposals, contained in draft circulars on land for housing and Green Belt, which it believes would actively encourage more breaches in the countryside.

The CPRE argues that Mr R. A. J. Bennett, the executive director of Consortium Developments, described the letter as "hysterical".

Last year the Wembley Stadium company generated profits of just under £2m before tax.

## Caledonian Girls to Dallas/Fort Worth: Two Super Executive tickets for the price of one.



Between 23rd October and 31st December 1983, we're offering two Super Executive seats for the price of one on all round trips to Dallas/Fort Worth.

So if you've never flown with us, now's a good time to try.

And let someone else share the experience with you. Free of charge.

For further details contact your local travel agent or call British Caledonian on 01-668 4222.

We never forget you have a choice.

**British Caledonian**

## Rampton nurses cleared

Three nurses, convicted 18 months ago of ill-treating patients at Rampton special hospital, were cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

The nurses, from Retford, Nottinghamshire, had worked on Dolphin ward between April 1977 and March 1979.

The Court of Appeal heard that there had been no "identifiable logicality" in their convictions.

They were: Mr Brian Holmes,



## PARLIAMENT November 10 1983

# Getting more time for the Liberal view

## COMMONS

The speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) in response to a series of points of order in the Commons about the article in *The Times* that day by Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L), calling on the Speaker to give the Liberal Party "its fair share in Parliament", said he had seen the article but had no intention of commenting either on it or Mr Johnston's conduct.

The article was mentioned during exchanges on future business and subsequently on points of order during which Mr John Evans (St Helens South, Lab) wondered if *The Times* had committed a breach of privilege in printing Mr Johnston's article.

Mr Russell Johnston said his intention in writing the article in *The Times* was to make a claim to the public that the price of the House which represented 15 per cent of the electorate and 7,500,000 people would indeed consider it profoundly unfair if there was not a willingness to call a member of the Social Democratic Party and a member of the Liberal Party in every debate.

In making this case Mr Speaker (the said) in no way whatever was I believe giving any guarantee or raise any doubt whatever about your personal wish to be fair.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dumfriesshire West, Lab), who raised the issue, said the article in *The Times* by Mr Johnston impinged on the Speaker's responsibility to the House. He asked the Speaker to give his views on the article in order to allay the fears of MPs.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said he had read the article with some care and it could be read another way. There were several instances where Mr Johnston was complaining about the way in which the SDP leader or leaders were able to catch the Speaker's eye as distinct from the Liberal MPs. He regarded it as a possible veiled attack upon the SDP by the Liberal Party. (Laughter) Mr Johnston said that on October 27 after the debate on the National Health Service in which no Liberal was called, the Speaker had said in response to a point of order from Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, LT) "I am sure that the House would consider it

extremely unfair if in every debate the Chair had to call a member from the Social Democratic Party and one from the Liberal Party."

After Mr Johnston had explained his intentions in writing the article, Mr Alan Williams (for Opposition (Swansea, West, Lab)) said the Opposition deplored the fact that Mr Johnston had gone to the press to make what anyone who read it would see as an utterly ill-founded and unwarranted attack on the Speaker.

The Alliance not only seemed to want the penny in the bun, they wanted to keep it and eat it. Did not the article in *The Times* indicate quite clearly that in the last Parliament the Alliance was given extra time for extra seats which it obtained by the shabby process of political defection, a process which represented not one extra Liberal or SDP vote in the House?

Was it not unfair, consistent with that precedent, that they welcomed at that time, that their now depleted ranks in the House should be reflected with depleted speaking time? On Mr Johnston's own figures in the article, with only 4 per cent of the seats was not the Speaker in danger of being over-generous in giving them 3 per cent of the time - 20 per cent longer than they were entitled to?

Mr Norman St John-Stevens (Chesterfield, C) said that irrespective of the merits of the article, it is not desirable that an MP should write an article in a newspaper criticizing the Speaker? Criticism of the Speaker within the House was most severely limited and could not be made except by substantive motion.

How much more so must not criticism be limited to MPs writing in this newspaper, which had no connection with the House? The Commons was the guardian of the rights and liberties of the people and that function could not be discharged unless there was a respect for the Chair outside the House.

During the election, most MPs were opposed by Alliance candidates described on the ballot paper. Some were Liberals, some were Democrats. In his constituency he had forgotten which. (Laughter) They all stood as Alliance. Surely, if every party in the House were allowed to be as of

right to put forward front bench speakers in every debate, what with this and privy councillors, back-bench MPs were going to be squashed.

It was essential that whoever else was involved in this controversy, it should not be the Speaker. The Leader of the House should take the initiative and discuss the matter with the various party leaders. That was the way to discuss it and not through the Chair, much less through the press.

Mr John Evans (St. Helens North, Lab) said: *The Times* is forever telling us that the world it is the voice of the British establishment. Is there not a question whether *The Times* is involved in breach of privilege in actually printing what the MP wrote?

Is it not a fact that the SDP and Liberal Party are one party and therefore entitled to only one speaker in any debate?

Mr Weatherill said that discussions with the Leader of the Liberal Party (Mr David Steel) had been taking place.

② If required to adjudicate on an article in *The Times* by Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L) complaining about unfairness in the allocation of speaking time in the Commons, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, should tell Mr Johnston's voting record. Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said:

After Mr Biffen had announced the business for next week Mr Skinner asked: If he finds it necessary to set up a series of meetings in order to adjudicate on this matter, will he bear in mind that although Mr Johnston has complained about the number of speakers he gets to speak in the House, in the last full parliamentary session he only managed 31 votes out of 332?

Mr Biffen: I am not clear that I have any adjudicating role, but if I have it will be nice to know that Mr Skinner will be my research assistant. (Laughter).

③ The house then went on to debate two Liberal-SDP motions tabled for a day given them by the official Opposition.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L)

Liberal spokesman on employment, moving a Liberal-SDP motion calling on the Government to take

steps to provide work for unemployed young people said the grand total of those unemployed under age 23 was 1.19 million, not that far short of the total unemployed in Britain in 1979.

He said the situation was desperate, yet the skills of Britain's people were likely to be the most important single factor if the nation was to have a future and to be able to do all the things it wanted to do in the next 10 to 20 years and well into the next century.

The Government would have to work hard to improve the image of the Youth Training Scheme and sell it to the young.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Employment, moved an amendment endorsing the Government's industrial and economic policies in tackling the root causes of unemployment through the control of inflation and public expenditure and congratulating the Government on the successful launching of the youth training scheme.

He said the stock of vacancies continued to rise steadily and the prospects for young people were better. There had been an improvement in job opportunities open to school leavers in some areas. The long term future of youth training.

Mr Gregor Macrae (Glasgow, Rutherglen, Lab) said the problem was that there were just not enough jobs for young people. The economic policy of the Government had failed to produce the jobs and the opportunities for these kids.

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④ The house then went on to debate two Liberal-SDP motions tabled for a day given them by the official Opposition.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L)

Liberal spokesman on employment, moving a Liberal-SDP motion calling on the Government to take

steps to provide work for unemployed young people said the grand total of those unemployed under age 23 was 1.19 million, not that far short of the total unemployed in Britain in 1979.

He said the situation was desperate, yet the skills of Britain's people were likely to be the most important single factor if the nation was to have a future and to be able to do all the things it wanted to do in the next 10 to 20 years and well into the next century.

The Government would have to work hard to improve the image of the Youth Training Scheme and sell it to the young.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Employment, moved an amendment endorsing the Government's industrial and economic policies in tackling the root causes of unemployment through the control of inflation and public expenditure and congratulating the Government on the successful launching of the youth training scheme.

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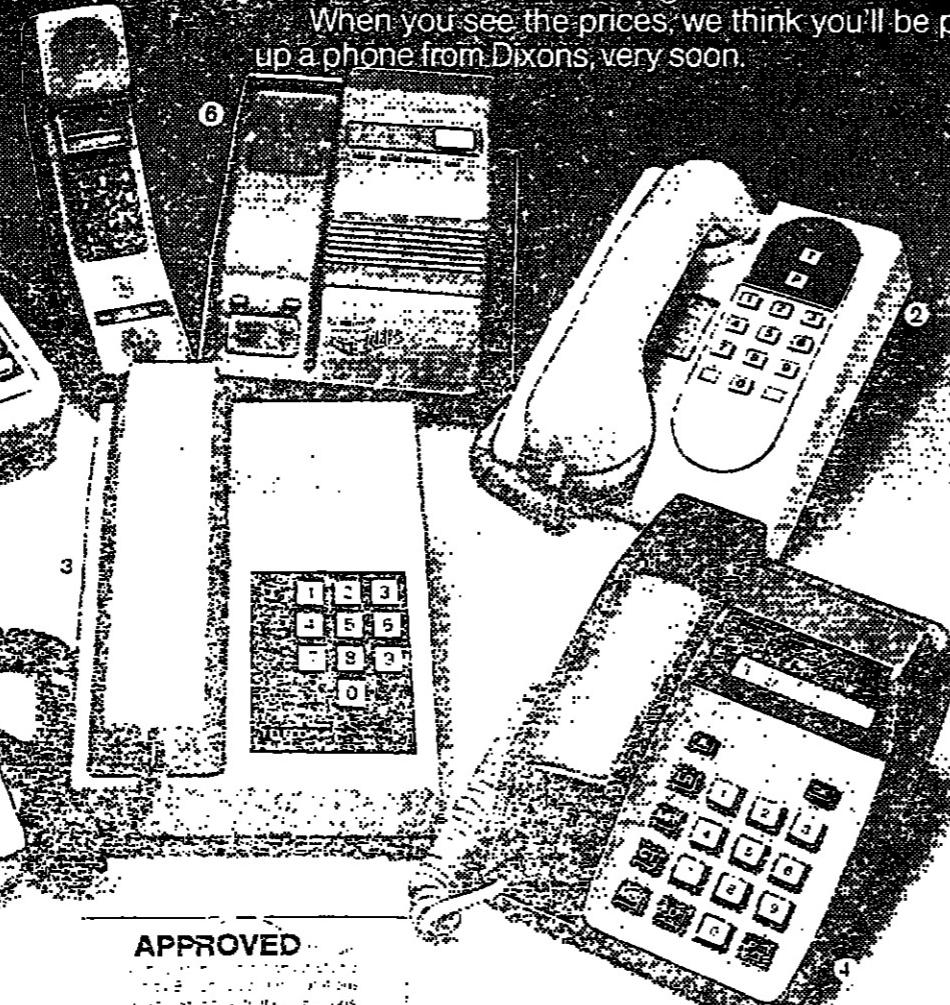
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## Miners' leaders brush aside pleas for pay offer ballot

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday brushed aside appeals from the National Coal Board for early ballot on the "final" 5.2 per cent pay offer and agreed to continue their two-week overtime ban indefinitely.

Despite rumbles from some moderates in the National Union of Mineworkers' executive voted unanimously to keep up the limited industrial action that is costing the board £10m a week in lost output.

Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, said: "If anything, there is a hardening of attitudes".

Production is about 400,000 tonnes lower this week, but the coal board insists that all customers are being supplied and the industry is saving on the costs of adding unwanted coal to stock.

No further talks are planned on the board's "first and final" offer of basic rate increases ranging from £4.90 to £6.80 a week. The overtime ban is not due to be reviewed until the next monthly meeting of the national executive on December 8.

Nominations for a new general secretary will also close then. Voting will take place by secret pithead ballot on January 16.

The miners' leaders are

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offered a choice between

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# Britain accused of trying to destroy EEC's foundation

From Ian Murray, Athens

Britain was accused of trying to "destroy the very foundations of the Community" yesterday by an angry Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission. He was outraged at the way Britain had rejected the latest Commission proposals for breaking the deadlock over fixing the scale of contributions to the EEC budget.

He made time during the intricate session of negotiations between EEC foreign and finance ministers here to claim that the Commission scheme still offered the only chance of salvation to the Community. He was clearly nettled at the way in which his ideas had been mauled by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, during the first session of the special council the previous evening.

The British proposal, he said, "is a system for which it will never be possible to obtain a majority in the parliaments of our 10 countries. To institutionalize the 'fair return' in this way would destroy the very foundations of the Community. If they were introduced, the Community would not be the same thing tomorrow."

The British delegation tended to take this as a compliment. Its view is that the whole idea is to change the Community from its present stagnant state into something new and dynamic. The Commission president's remarks were dismissed as "a nonsense and a rather surprising reaction".

As the talks dragged on, however, it became clear that every other member state was waiting for Britain to move away from its very clear hardline position before starting negotiations in earnest. There was still a widespread feeling that Britain could not possibly cling indefinitely to its present unpopular argument.

But Sir Geoffrey and Mr Michael Jopling, who arrived for a special session of agriculture ministers to argue for reform of the common agricultural policy, both stuck rigidly to the British line.

Until Britain was required to pay no more than a fair share

## EEC SPENDING

	B	DK	WG	GR	F	IRL	I	L	NL	UK	Avgc
1.	529	547	1910	684	2830	495	2596	26	1402	1277	
2.	405	478	2205	613	3224	282	2464	12	520	1655	
3.	1251	634	2736	1012	3503	913	3704	281	1572	2334	
4.	753	585	3032	942	4000	699	3574	215	1084	2717	
5.	126	124	44	105	65	258	66	702	112	42	64
6.	77	111	49	98	74	206	63	537	78	49	64

1. Farm spending in each member state in 1982 expressed in millions of European Monetary Units (ECUs).  
2. Farm spending in 1982 according to the commission's proposed method of reallocating benefits according to the proportion of the Community crop produced in each member state expressed in millions of ECUs.  
3. Total Community spending in each member state in 1982 expressed in millions of ECUs.  
4. Total Community expenditure in each member state in 1982 according to the new Commission proposals expressed in millions of ECUs.  
5. Number of ECUs spent by the Community in each country per head of the population under existing methods of calculation.  
6. Number of ECUs spent by the Community in each country per head of population according to the new Commission proposal.  
The ECU conversion rate in 1982 was 575.

Key: B=Belgium; DK=Denmark; WG=West Germany; GR=Greece; F=France; IRL=Ireland; I=Italy; L=Luxembourg; NL=The Netherlands.

## Danish MPs back Nato membership

From Christopher Fullett, Copenhagen

The Danish Parliament yesterday reaffirmed Danish membership of Nato, calling upon the Conservative-led minority Government to maintain Denmark's nuclear-free status within the Alliance and work actively for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Scandinavia.

Speaking in a debate on national security, Mr Hans Engell, the Minister of Defence, said the Government would continue to support Nato's current nuclear strategy, leaving the door open for possible future consideration of nuclear-free zones in Europe in consultation with its allies. The motion was passed by 57 votes to 13 with 72 abstentions.

Denmark's Nato allies this week rejected outright its request for a special meeting of alliance foreign ministers to reappraise Western deployment policy.

## Malta holds up accord at Helsinki

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

Five neutral countries presented a draft final document to the Helsinki preparatory conference, which is trying to agree on an agenda and timetable for the Stockholm conference on confidence and security building measures due to begin in January.

Most delegations wish the Helsinki meeting to end on Friday. This was however made doubtful by Mr Evarist Saliba of Malta who again tries to bring non-participating Mediterranean countries closer to the security process. Western delegations objected strongly. Urgent negotiations began to find a compromise that would give these countries a chance to make an initial contribution but not more.

Mr Saliba said that the neutral draft was "absolutely and unequivocally unacceptable", because it did not take account of any Malta's demands.

## Britain resists Unesco's new order

From Roger Beardwood, Paris

Britain and the US took a strong stand yesterday against moves in Unesco to impose the so-called "new world information and communication order". Most Western governments argue that this would threaten freedom of the press by making licensing of journalists mandatory.

Mr Ray Whitney, Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, told the commission debating the proposals that Britain was 100 per cent against legal norms that would define "responsible and irresponsible" journalism. The proposals envisage withdrawal of licenses from "irresponsible" journalists.

In an interview, Mr Whitney said that the key issue was who would decide what was responsible and otherwise. The system

## Lebanon: Marines relax as PLO fights on



Two faces of war: Marines at Beirut airport stand proudly behind a giant birthday cake to mark the Corps' 20th anniversary, and (right) a corporal carefully erects an extra barrier of barbed wire.

## Shellfire shatters fragile Tripoli truce

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The short-lived ceasefire in the Palestinian civil war round the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli collapsed yesterday afternoon in a welter of shellfire as Mr Yassir Arafat accused Syria of bringing an armoured brigade to the help of the Palestinian rebels trying to destroy him.

Throughout the day Mr Arafat avoided any suggestion that he was about to leave Tripoli. The means to do so were offered by the Italians during the morning, when Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Defence Minister, announced in Rome that the missile cruiser Orsa and the destroyer Ardito both on station in the Mediterranean with the multinational force - had been ordered to evacuate the PLO soon from three sides.

Even as Mr Arafat was insisting that his own Palestine Liberation Organization guerrillas were abiding by the ceasefire, their Katynusas could be

heard firing from the port area of the city. The official PLO leader and his senior entourage, if asked to do so.

All Mr Arafat would say was that he was "willing and ready" to leave Tripoli, if requested to do so by the city's religious and civic leaders.

Sabikh Saeed Shaaban, the Sunni Muslim spiritual leader in Tripoli, has appealed to President Assad of Syria to abide by a ceasefire, but has given a warning that Sunnis nationalist militia would join PLO loyalists in fighting the Syrians if Tripoli came under wholesale attack.

• WASHINGTON: Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told a press conference here that a defeat for Mr Arafat would not be of military significance (Nicholas

## End of Israel call-up test eases tension

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

One of many factors for Syria was seen as part of a war tension in the Middle East was eliminated yesterday when Israel's military command announced the end of the mass call-up exercise launched on Wednesday involving tens of thousands of men.

A terse statement yesterday said: "The exercise was part of a series held at irregular intervals to improve the efficiency of the call-up process. A first analysis shows that the response was fast and orderly... The last reserves are now returning to their homes."

The controversial exercise was held in the face of extreme Syrian nervousness, apparently unallayed by assurances passed through the UN and other diplomatic channels that Israel had no aggressive intent.

The Government's decision to persevere with it after Monday's full mobilization in

Israelis officials in Cairo are optimistic that the first high-level contacts with Egypt for 18 months will result in the return of an Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

"There is a will on both sides to resume contact," an embassy source said on Wednesday after Mr David Ivri, deputy chief of staff, Wednesday's operation - which also involved the requisitioning of hundreds of private vehicles through code words broadcast by local radio - was needed to test recently developed methods of speeding up mobilization.

In a separate development, Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told the West German magazine Stern that Israel was likely to "extend Israeli law" to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip if the plan for

Palestinian autonomy outlined in the Camp David treaty could not be implemented.

## Optimism grows for restoring Cairo link

From Robert Holloway, Cairo

Israeli officials in Cairo are optimistic that the first high-level contacts with Egypt for 18 months will result in the return of an Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

Egyptian officials said the talks between Dr Boutros Ghali and Mr Kimche were "designed to re-energize the process" which stalled when Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv in September last year in protest at the Israeli Army's move into West Beirut and the massacre by Lebanese gunmen of hundreds of Palestinian refugees there.

Egypt at first said the condition for resuming full relations was that Israel should announce a timetable for pulling all its forces out of Lebanon, but since then it was intimated that Israel must also show willingness to compromise over Taba and stop building settlements on the West Bank.

Another important topic was the status of some 5,000 Palestinians stranded in a camp at Rafah, northern Sinai, after

the Israeli withdrawal. They had been moved out of the Gaza Strip before the return of Sinai.

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Another team of operators man the machine and test it every hour of the day and night, sending poems or friendly inquiries to their Moscow counterparts, to ensure all is working as it should. Mrs Dobrynina, wife of Soviet Ambassador in Washington, was in service for the past 30 years.

Proposals to make better use of the "hot line" were put forward by President Reagan a year ago, and the last in a series of contacts between special delegations from the superpowers took place in August.

If progress had been swifter and the US recommendations enacted, the airliner incident might well have been avoided. As it is officials are tactfully trying to avoid any "we told

you so" note in their dealings with Moscow.

The direct communications link is not a scarlet telephone of the kind which figures in most people's imagination, but a Telex channel which has been operated from the Pentagon since 1963.

President has spoken to President on a number of occasions, including the Six-Day War in 1967, although the White House incumbent does not actually have to drive to the Pentagon and punch the message out himself.

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The third of the four proposals mooted last year was to establish similar links between military commands on either side. This is the kind of facility which might have allayed Soviet fears over the airliner, according to officials.

The American idea of a multilateral consultation link-up will require careful sounding-out of countries during the next few months.

There is an underlying unease in the US about the Lebanon operation now. If there is a succession of further American casualties, even without anything nearly as dramatic as a repetition of the Beirut massacre, unease will turn to anger. Mr Reagan would then be vulnerable if he simply left American troops to be shot at.

But any retaliation would have to be carefully judged if it were not to raise political alarm bells at home. Many Americans would be nervous about either raising the level of force to a higher plane or involving the US in a military operation from which it could not easily disengage.

The immediate preoccupation of Lebanon and Grenada are not the only international issues that matter politically in the US. If Mr Reagan was able to reach a disarmament agreement with the Soviet Union he would earn a valuable electoral bonus. But the political significance of Grenada is that he does not now need to achieve further foreign policy successes. He just has to keep out of trouble.

## Iran takes reprisals for French sale to Iraq

Tehran (AFP, AP) - France's delivery of five Super-Etendard fighter planes to Iraq has sparked a series of Iranian economic reprisals according to the French.

The measures taken by Tehran included a demand that the commercial attaché's office be closed, stiff sanctions against French banks and the closure of the French Institute for Research, an archaeological organization that has been in Iran for a century.

The reprisals appear to be aimed at ending France's commercial and financial links in the country.

## Two versions of jet crash

The Angolan Government and the United rebels have issued contradictory claims about the Boeing 737 that crashed at Lubango airport on Tuesday killing all passengers (Richard Dowden writes).

United claims to have shot down the plane and that it was carrying government troops and Cubans. The Government said that there were only two soldiers among the 128 people on board.

## Kidnap couple appeal to Paris

Bangkok - A young French couple appealed to the French Government to meet the demands of Burmese rebels who have been holding them hostage for three weeks (Neil Kelly writes).

M Jacques Bossu and his wife Martine, have been told they will be released only when France undertakes to cancel all aid to Burma.

## Danube crisis

Vienna - Anxiety has been mounting here this week that the Danube will become un navigable if there is no rainfall within the next few days. A Bulgarian tug recently ran aground five miles west of Vienna and other cargo ships have been asked to halve their loads.

## Union charges

Lisbon - Twenty-three Portuguese union leaders, arrested in front of the Prime Minister's official residence here, have been charged with holding an unauthorized demonstration and disobeying police orders to move on.

## Job for Swede

Stockholm (Reuters) - Mr Ove Rainer, who resigned as Sweden's Justice Minister after a row over his methods of avoiding taxes, has been named a judge of the Supreme Court.

## End of an era

Geneva - With a fly-past at Sion, the Swiss Air Force bid a ceremonial farewell yesterday to the last of its British-designed Venom jet fighters which have been in service for the past 30 years.

But will it continue to be an advantage? I do not believe that any amount of debate will change American popular opinion on Grenada. Public approval will diminish only if the facts change.

If things turn sour on the island it will no longer seem a neat, surgical operation. If there were to be further, more ambitious military actions by the US in Central America, Grenada might then come to be regarded not as a simple success story but as the first move in a new and more dangerous sequence of events.

But one consequence of Grenada is that Mr Reagan will not be under pressure to take risks to prove that he can act strongly in Central America.

Lebanon presents a more hazardous political problem. The American temperament is not suited to peacekeeping operations. According to the national tradition, soldiers are for fighting and wars are for winning. From Korea onwards, the US has been uncomfortable with military engagements along more complex lines.

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# How to slay paperwork and save money.

In your company, there may be a monster that creeps round the corridors, eating up time and munching money.

It's called 'Paperwork'.

And it can be cut down in its tracks by Lloyds Bank, using a system called BACS.

BACS stands for Bankers' Automated Clearing Services and it takes a mass of paperwork off your company's hands by means of automation.

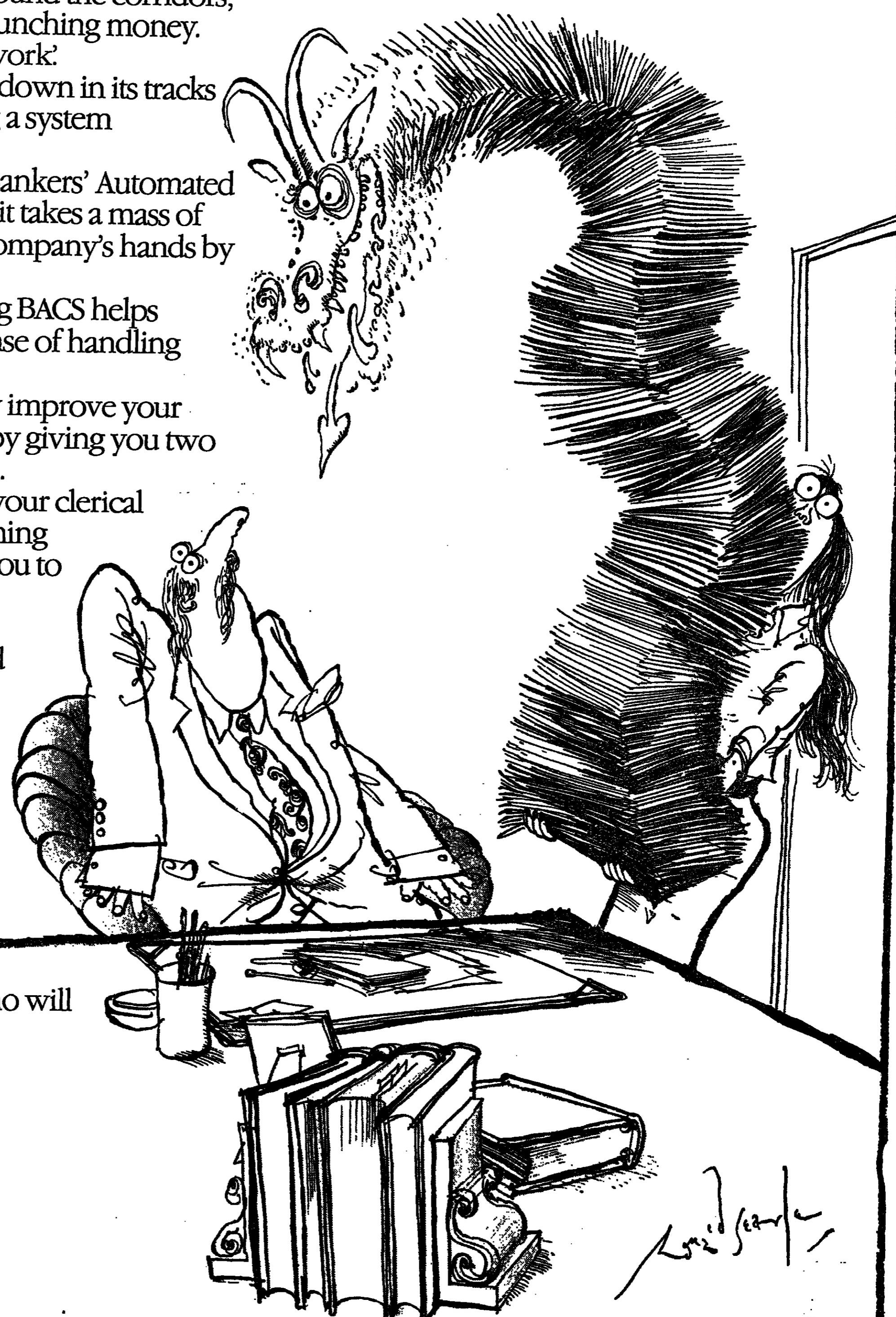
For instance, using BACS helps you save on the expense of handling payments in and out.

It can significantly improve your company's cash flow by giving you two extra days use of funds.

And by releasing your clerical staff from time-consuming paperwork, it allows you to deploy them more productively.

Add all this up and you could make cost savings that are not to be sneezed at.

So, take a hard look at your company, and if there's a paper prowler on your payroll, call your Lloyds Bank manager. He'll put you in touch with our BACS specialists who will make short shrift of the problem.



## The Grenada aftermath

## Americans wonder how long to stay

From Trevor Fishlock, St George's, Grenada

It seemed straightforward: American troops in a rotten government destroyed, a time of fear ended, Cubans expelled and an interim administration installed to hold the ring until elections can be held.

But both the Americans and the interim administration face a tangle of difficulties. Grenada's funds are low and its economy weak. It badly needs help.

The crucial question for the Americans is how long to stay before their welcome begins to fray and how much money to pump in to help regenerate the economy without making the island dependent. They have to strike a balance between obligation, economic first aid and the long-term interests both of themselves and the islanders.

They also have to decide quickly on the future of the half-built airport that President Reagan saw as a Cuba-Soviet base and a threat to his country, but which many Grenadians believe is a vital component of their economic advance.

The queues of people waiting to see bank managers in St George's are evidence of the anxiety many Grenadians feel. After the terrible day of October 19, when crowds were fired on by soldiers, and Mr Maurice Bishop, the former Prime Minister, was killed, people

rushed to the banks to withdraw their money.

Inflation is about 15 per cent and people seek and usually get more time to pay back loans. The sharp decline in business and loss of income during the crisis will reduce tax revenues. The recent upheaval may also damage the tourist business.

The Bishop Government went in for a number of expensive projects to improve the economy and had to increase taxes. It also set much store by the airport at Point Salines, due for completion next spring. The island has only a small airport, at Pearls, and the new one was seen as vital for exploiting the tourist potential of an exquisitely beautiful island. It was expected that more hotels and better roads would follow.

Cubans were doing much of the construction work and the British company, Plessey, had an £8.5m contract to install radar and navigation aids, air-conditioning and other equipment. Some of the delicate equipment stores at the site was damaged during the invasion.

Point Salines is now a secure military base and has been the scene of the largest American military operation since the Vietnam war. The Americans may want to retain a strong presence there.

The 9,000ft runway that Mr

leading Democratic contenders for the Presidency, Mr Walter Mondale and Senator John

Meanwhile, the Reagan Administration yesterday firmly denied British press reports that the US death toll in the Grenada invasion was more than twice that officially reported. Asked to comment on these reports, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told *The Times*: "they're wrong, they're wrong".

The names of those who died have been prominently reported in the US media. The Administration has reported 18 American deaths in the Grenada operation. The British press reports said the death toll was 42 and could rise as high as 80.

But, with the US presidential election less than a year away, they have also undoubtedly been influenced by the overwhelming support of the American public for the invasion.

A *Washington Post* ABC News poll showed that the President's handling of the crisis had increased his overall popularity rating to its highest level in two years, and that he had edged ahead of the two

However, two members of the mission have said they still retained doubts.

Undoubtedly the welcome US troops received both from Americans on the island and from the Grenadians, as well as reports of the quantity of weapons discovered there have caused Mr O'Neill, Mr Barnes and others to adjust their views.

But, with the US presidential election less than a year away, they have also undoubtedly been influenced by the overwhelming support of the American public for the invasion.

Another unexpected declaration of support has come from Congressman Michael Barnes (Democrat, Maryland), who is normally an outspoken critic of the President on foreign policy issues.

In an article in yesterday's



## Reagan's argument persuades Japan

From David Watts, Tokyo

The United States has won significant commitments from Japan which should lead to some liberalization of the Japanese economy and pave the way for the emergence of the yen as an international currency. Washington believes that the measures should strengthen the yen, making Japanese products less competitive and easing the enormous Japanese-US trade imbalance.

The measures, however, will need approval by the Diet and the ability of Japan to deliver results is complicated by the fact that Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, is expected to go to the polls by the end of this year.

That assurance was one of the few detailed public references to defence issues.

President Reagan has prom-

ised the Japanese that SS20 missiles in the Soviet Far East will receive equal consideration in arms negotiations to those aimed at Europe and the United States. His promise comes amid fresh evidence that the Soviet Union plans to build up its deployment of SS20s in central Siberia and the Far East above the 108 already in place.

According to press statements after their second round of talks, the President told the Japanese Prime Minister: "The US will take no action in the intermediate nuclear forces negotiations that adversely affects the security of Asia".

The measures, however, will need approval by the Diet and the ability of Japan to deliver results is complicated by the fact that Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, is expected to go to the polls by the end of this year.

That assurance was one of the few detailed public references to defence issues.

## Spain and Portugal meet to mend fences

From Richard Wigg

Madrid

Señor Felipe González and Dr Mario Soares, the prime ministers of Spain and Portugal, meet today in Lisbon to try to launch a new spirit of collaboration between the two nations' neighbours "with their backs to each other".

There are big trading problems, and Señor González is taking a team of ministers, including Señor Miguel Boyer (Economics and Finance) to the two-day summit.

Relations, at their lowest ebb for decades, are more than a challenge for the two Socialist prime ministers and the poverty of economic, political and cultural contacts are a matter of shame.

Many Portuguese, Dr Soares has warned the Spaniards, still mistrust their bigger neighbour, from whom they achieved independence only in the seventeenth century. The first site suggested for the talks was rejected because a monument to the independence struggle

Before departing, Señor González floated the idea of dismantling all tariff barriers but Dr Soares replied that a Benelux-style relationship was "too unimaginative".

Both almost daily proclaim their impatience to join the EEC. Yet neither has felt able to emulate Ireland, which prepared for membership by negotiating a free-trade agreement with Britain.

For years, Spain has been Portugal's thirteenth-ranking customer. There is no Portuguese bank in Madrid and still no bridge over the Guadiana river between Andalucía and southern Portugal.

The trade framework established in 1980 between Spain and Portugal, with EEC entry in mind, soon ran into difficulties as Spain's exports, chiefly industrial goods, rapidly grew, while Portugal's mainly raw materials and textiles declined initially.

By going slow on licences, Portugal, in the first nine months of this year, reduced Spain's exports to £172m, against £290m for 1982, while pushing its exports to Spain up to £79m, against £72m for all of last year. By such tactics Portugal hopes to induce Spain to go on lowering its tariff barriers.

Portugal has stonewalled on renewing a fishing agreement, fining all Spanish vessels caught "trespassing". Behind a conservationist argument lies the fact that Spanish boats are more efficient.

## Tinkering with the system

## Illness and inertia hold back efficiency drive

**Richard Owen**, Moscow Correspondent, concludes his examination of Soviet policies a year after the death of Brezhnev.

Thus, championed, it is thought, is Mr Chernenko, who lost the leadership battle a year ago but is still at the top. He no longer "heads" the powerful "general" department, and Andropov aides have moved into other key party positions.

Mr Chernenko is seen as a lightweight figure, yet he is acting head of the Politburo in Mr Andropov's absence, receives foreign delegations and writes prominent articles on ideology.

Some sources say that if Mr Andropov recovers from his illness - there are unconfirmed reports that he has had a kidney operation - and takes firm command he will be in a position to take stronger measures next year.

He has never acquired dictatorial powers, but his authority remains unchallenged: he holds the three vital posts of party leader, head of state and chairman of the Defence Council (an appointment

part 2

of the Politburo).

Andropov's

first

year

Part 2

of the Politburo).

Andropov's

# THE DIFFERENCE A REGULAR MONTHLY INCOME MAKES:

**What 11½% p.a. gross earns you every month**

Investment	Average monthly income	Investment	Average monthly income
£ 2,000	£ 19.17	£15,000	£143.75
£ 3,000	£ 28.75	£16,000	£153.33
£ 4,000	£ 38.33	£17,000	£162.92
£ 5,000	£ 47.92	£18,000	£172.50
£ 6,000	£ 57.50	£19,000	£182.08
£ 7,000	£ 67.08	£20,000	£191.67
£ 8,000	£ 76.67	£21,000	£201.25
£ 9,000	£ 86.25	£22,000	£210.83
£10,000	£ 95.83	£23,000	£220.42
£11,000	£105.42	£24,000	£230.00
£12,000	£115.00	£25,000	£239.58
£13,000	£124.58		
£14,000	£134.17		

(Each additional £1,000 invested produces an average of £9.58 a month - £115.00 a year. Maximum of £200,000.)

As you can see, an investment in National Savings Income Bonds can make a lot of difference to your income. Currently you'll get 11½% pa interest on your Income Bonds. You'll get it paid monthly. And you'll get it all paid without deduction of tax.

**Enjoy Life With A Monthly Income** The interest is sent direct to your home or your bank on the 5th of each month.

It means some extra money coming in regularly to help pay the bills or simply to spend enjoying life.

**Your Savings Are Never Touched** Your capital is completely safe - the cash you put in is the cash you'll get back. The rate paid may change from time to time, but it will be kept competitive.

Interest is calculated on a day-to-day basis and is subject to tax if you are a taxpayer

**Getting Your Money Out** You can have your money repaid at either three months or six months notice.

If you have held your Bonds for a year or more and have given six months notice, you won't lose a penny of interest.

For details of repayment see paragraph 6 of the prospectus (the full prospectus is published below).

**Invest Here and Now** You can be sure your investment will always provide a worthwhile income month in, month out. And you can invest here and now.

All you have to do is complete the coupon and send it with your cheque (payable to "National Savings," crossed "A/C Payee") to NSIB, Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancs, FY3 9YP.

Or ask for an application form at your Post Office.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS INCOME BONDS



### PROSPECTUS

1. The Director of Savings is authorised by the Lord Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to receive until further notice applications for National Savings Income Bonds ("Bonds").

2. The Bonds are a Government security, issued under the National Loans Act 1968. They are registered in the National Savings and Investments Register and the Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register for the time being in force, so far as these are applicable. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be a charge on the National Loans Fund.

#### PURCHASE

3.1 Subject to a minimum initial purchase of £2,000 (see paragraph 4) a Bond may be purchased for £1,000 or a multiple thereof. Payment in full must be made at the time of application. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date of receipt of the remittance, with a completed application form, at the Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool, or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

3.2 An investment certificate, bearing the date of purchase, will be issued in respect of each purchase.

#### HOLDING LIMITS

4.1 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £2,000 or more than £200,000 of Bonds. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder will not count towards this permitted maximum. Furthermore, Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum which he is permitted to hold in his personal capacity, nor will Bonds held in trust count towards the permitted maximum of a beneficiary's personal holding.

4.2 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits and the minimum initial purchase from time to time, upon giving notice. No such variation will prejudice any right under the prospectus enjoyed by a Bondholder immediately before the variation in respect of a Bond then held by him.

**INTEREST**

5.1 Interest will be calculated on a day-to-day basis from the date of purchase at a rate determined by the Treasury ("the Treasury rate").

5.2 Interest will be payable on the 5th day of each month. The Director of Savings may defer payments of accrued interest otherwise due until a Bond within the period of six weeks following the date of purchase until the next interest date following the end of that period.

5.3 If on repayment the Bond has, by reason of paragraph 6.1, earned less interest than the total already paid in respect of the Bond under paragraph 5.2, the balance will be deducted from the sum to be repaid. Any interest earned on the Bond and not already paid before repayment will be added to the sum to be repaid. If, in the case of repayment under paragraph 6.2, it is not reasonably practicable to stop an interest payment from being made after the

repayment date the amount of that interest payment will be deducted from the sum to be repaid.

5.4 The Treasury may from time to time vary the Treasury rate upon giving six weeks' notice.

5.5 The Treasury may from time to time vary the intervals at and dates on which interest is payable upon giving notice, and in doing so may specify holding limits above or below which any variation will apply. Novation will apply to Bonds issued before the variation unless the Bondholder agrees to such application.

5.6 Interest on a Bond registered in the sole name of a minor under seven years of age will normally be paid into a National Savings Bank account in the name of the minor.

5.7 Interest on a Bond will be paid without deduction of income tax, but it is subject to Income Tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue.

#### REPAYMENT

6.1 A Bondholder may obtain repayment of a Bond at par before redemption upon giving either three or six calendar months' notice. The amount of interest earned by the Bond from the date of purchase until repayment will be determined by the period of notice given by the Bondholder and by whether or not repayment takes place before the first anniversary of purchase.

6.2 Interest will not be payable except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

6.3 Interest will be payable on a Bond if it is transferred to another person.

6.4 Application may be made for repayment of part of a Bond in an amount of £1,000 or a multiple of that sum provided that the holding of Bonds remaining after the part repayment will still fall within the minimum holding limit imposed by paragraph 4.1 as varied from time to time under paragraph 4.2. The preceding sub-paragraph will apply to the part repaid as to a whole bond. The remaining holding will have the same date of purchase and the same interest dates as were applicable to the original Bond immediately prior to repayment.

paned by the investment certificate. The period of notice given by the Bondholder will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the Bonds and Stock Office.

6.4 Application may be made for repayment of part of a Bond in an amount of £1,000 or a multiple of that sum provided that the holding of Bonds remaining after the part repayment will still fall within the minimum holding limit imposed by paragraph 4.1 as varied from time to time under paragraph 4.2. The preceding sub-paragraph will apply to the part repaid as to a whole bond. The remaining holding will have the same date of purchase and the same interest dates as were applicable to the original Bond immediately prior to repayment.

#### TRANSFER

7. Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. Transfer of a Bond or part of a Bond will only be allowed in an amount of £1,000 or a multiple of that sum and will not be allowed if the holding of the transferor or transferee would thereby be outside the holding limits imposed by paragraph 4.1 as varied from time to time under paragraph 4.2. The Director of Savings will normally give consent in the case of, for example, devolution of Bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

#### NOTICE

10. The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 4.2, 5.4, 5.5 or 11 of the prospectus in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazette or in any other manner which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazettes it will as soon as is reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

#### GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS

11. Each Bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the first interest date after the date of purchase. Therefore interest will not be payable under the terms of the prospectus until the redemption of the Bond. The Bond will be redeemed in part or at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any interest date thereafter in either case upon the giving of six months' notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the Bondholder before redemption, at the last recorded address for his Bondholders, informing him of the date of redemption notified by the Treasury.

12. When an application for repayment of a Bond is made after the death of the sole or sole surviving registered holder no fixed period of notice is required and the Bond will earn interest at the Treasury rate from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment, whether or not repayment occurs before the first anniversary of the purchase.

13. Any application for repayment of a Bond must be made in writing to the Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool and accom-

### APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL SAVINGS INCOME BOND

To NSIB, Bonds and Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancs FY3 9YP.

I/We accept the terms of the Prospectus and apply for a Bond to the value of: £ ,000

Initial minimum of £2,000 and multiples of £1,000 to a maximum of £200,000

Mr/Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Surname(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Full Christian name(s) or forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (including postcode) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Trust (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (if under 17) \_\_\_\_\_ Day Month Year \_\_\_\_\_

NAME AND ADDRESS FOR DESPATCH OF INVESTMENT CERTIFICATE (if different from above)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Bank \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

A/c Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ A/c No. \_\_\_\_\_

T/7 Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

CUTS

## SPECTRUM

# Smoothing the path to the top

Only C. P. Snow could have done justice to the battle for the new entrance system to Oxford University. Last week the reformers won a victory. But there is still room for the traditionalists to escape. Robin Young reports.

I suspect I got into Oxford by a lie. My interviewers noted that I had studied nothing but nineteenth century history. Who, one of them asked, ruled England in 1530? Desperate, I guessed "Henry VIII." When they seemed to concur I added upon an euphoric inspiration: "I worked it out from Shakespeare." The senior tutor's eyelid trembled. I was in.

Telling this story in Oxford now, I am assured it cannot be true. It was by my papers I was judged – interviews never counted for much. Maybe, but it is mythology like mine that perpetually agitates people's feelings about Oxbridge entrance exams. My belief, that one could fluke a way in, has always been matched by more pessimistic myths: that no one can make it without family connexions, wealth or the right school background.

When I went up the Oxford entrance system was still a tangled thicket of closed awards (one limited to sons of one-eyed haberdashers, we were told), college group examinations for open awards, and separate college exams for commoners' places. Some less lucky than me became Oxford commutes, trailing up to Oxford colleges five or more times a year.

In 1962 the system was rationalized. Oxford and Cambridge retained their own entrance exams, held in November, but only on condition that they decided early in the academic year by January 31 – on candidates they did examine. Those who were told "Yes" had then only to fulfil matriculation requirements (two Es in A-levels) and they were in. Those who were told "No" knew early enough to hunt for places elsewhere through the UCCA

Dr Oliver Taplin, admissions committee chairman: "We cannot shed the Brideshead image by altering our admissions policy."

admissions procedure to other British universities which offer places on condition that certain grades are reached the following summer.

Some Oxford colleges made limited use of the same "conditional offer" mode of entry as used by UCCA, but pupils had to apply earlier to Oxford and on a separate form. Interviews for conditional offers, held in September and October, left candidates nine months' notice of the grades they required in A-levels if their conditions of entry were to be fulfilled.

Though entrance exams could be sat at any age (and in successive years if success was not immediate), public schools concentrated their attention on sending candidates for examination in their seventh term of sixth form, after sitting A-levels and having one term's special preparation for the Oxbridge trial.

The 1962 arrangement was probably suitable for its time. Then Oxford made its choice from a relatively small number of schools – public, direct grant and maintained grammar – all of which themselves had selective entry. Since then the reorganization of

## From Westminster school: the view of the classroom



Left: Dr John Rae with John Goodgame, Angus Saer, Penelope Davies and Jonathan Baxter; right: head boy Alasdair Coles with Andrew Hordern

Angus Saer: "Our first-year sixth work now is going to be really hard, really fast, and I am afraid, governed exclusively by the syllabus."

Taking Oxford entrance exams this month:

Alasdair Coles, 16, head boy: "It will be a pity to lose the

seventh term study because it is really exciting and stimulating, but I would much prefer to win a place thinking that I met the competition on an equal footing. To think you won only because of privilege must make you feel pretty lousy."

Andrew Hordern, 18, tenth-term

applicant: "Anything which attacks privilege of the public schools must be good, but the Oxbridge exams have been very different to A-levels. In A-levels they are impressed by the sheer number of facts you throw at them. For Oxbridge you had to be able to supply some concrete argument as well."



Sir Kenneth Dover: a delicate touch for a Byzantine task

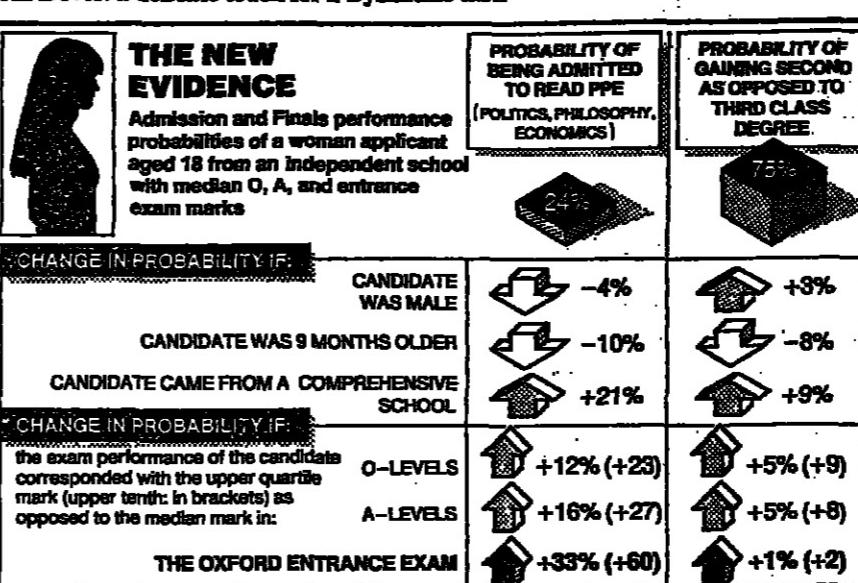
## Why the entrance exam is a waste of effort

Dr Paul Collier of Keble College and Dr Colin Mayer of St Anne's analysed the examination records of 526 candidates who applied to read PPE at Oxford in 1978, and 294 undergraduates who sat finals in 1982 and 1983 and obtained second or third class degrees. (Attention was concentrated on these classifications since they are the ones to which examiners pay closest attention in their marking.)

On admissions the researchers found that children from comprehensive schools had a significantly higher probability of being accepted than did children from independent schools with the same examination grades. Yet they concluded that this differential was not generous enough. This was because they also found that children from comprehensives did better in finals than those from independent schools with the same O and A-levels. They argue therefore that a more balanced social mix at Oxford would not conflict with higher academic standards.

From their analysis of finals' results, Collier and Meyer concluded that Oxford's entrance exams had the least predictive value of all in forecasting how well candidates would do at the end of their university careers.

The table shows key results of the study. Taking an applicant with median characteristics in terms of age and O-level, A-level and entrance examination marks, column 1 shows how the candidate's chances of admission to Oxford varied with improved



performance in each exam. Better marks in the Oxford entrance examination were markedly the most influential factor.

Column II shows whether the same factors relate to whether an undergraduate in the finals gets a second or third-class degree. Discrepancies between admissions and finals results are very wide, and although examiners placed most reliance on the entrance exam in admissions, it is inferior to both O and A-levels as a predictor of finals results.

In finals, the comprehensive candidate with median characteristics was found to perform far better than the independent school undergraduate.

Or ensure that more maintained-school candidates will actually get in, Dover would cautiously add. "There is a jump in reasoning in supposing that you can alter the type of school from which successful candidates come by changing the admissions system", he says. "The only way of guaranteeing that more of the intake came from the maintained sector would be to impose a quota." Wryly he tells the story of a northern headmaster who told him: "If Oxford made shapely calves the criterion of entry, Sir Kenneth, in three years my boys would have the loveliest legs in Yorkshire."

Indeed school corridors, and teachers' and admission tutors' telephones, are already abuzz with speculation about how the Dover changes will affect the coming generations of sixth-formers. And independent schools have already summoned meetings of parents to explain how they intend to ensure that, despite the new system, their children will still excel.

The public-school pupils who have spent the last eight weeks rehearsing for the seventh-term (post-A-level) Oxford entrance exams held this month are in the penultimate year to enjoy that particular luxury. From 1985 Oxford applicants will either face their written exam in the fourth sixth-form term before sitting A-levels (Mode E) or go for entry without written examination (Mode N). Mode N will be open to candidates at any stage of their career. All the colleges have agreed to adopt the same procedure.

The Dover reforms mean that interviews for both modes of entry, E and N, will be conducted simultaneously in December so that selectors will have all the candidates before them at the same time. There will be no more gambling with early offers, not knowing the strength of the candidates who might present themselves months later.

Fourth-term sixth-formers will no longer be pitted in exams against seventh (and even tenth) termers with the unconvincing assurance that the exams are designed to test potential rather than achievement. Ridiculed in schools, the claim was regarded sceptically even in Oxford. And candidates will no longer be obliged to list three Oxford colleges in order of preference. In the past it was something akin to filling a football pools coupon. The totally unpredictable variations in the size and quality of the field which might go for places in the same subject at any one college left some candidates unplaced, while the luckier ones of no greater ability were snapped up by their colleges of first choice.

From 1985 candidates will still be able to list preferences for one, two or three colleges. Those who choose to return open applications, without stating any preference, will be allocated to colleges by computer according to the number of places available.

In the new system schoolteachers will be involved in panels supervising the Oxford entrance exams. Dr Harry Judge, director of Oxford's Department of Educational Studies, says: "I do hope with their participation that it will be possible to design exams which will be much more precise than the existing ones in determining academic potential, rather than attainment."

Two issues remain to disquiet the Dover committee reformers. One amendment to their scheme results, they claim, from misunderstandings and confusion. It means that Mode N applicants, as well as being encouraged to submit written work from school and being subject to interview and oral tests, may also face an hour of written tests as well. There are fears that these tests may quickly develop into a proliferation of alternatives to the newly abolished seventh-term exam.

At present it is not even clear whether they are to be set by individual colleges, or by inter-collegiate subject committees. That Oliver Taplin promises, will speedily be sorted out.

Dr Peter Neumann, of Queen's College – the Dover committee

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## Fog is the permanent outlook

My friends find it hard to believe that I recently became the author of an entirely serious work entitled *Nature Made Ridiculously Simple*. Just how serious this survey of the entire natural world can be judged by the fact that I did not plead for the sentimental protection of any rare species, but argued rather for the extermination of a great many, in order to make nature easier to identify. During the course of research for the book, which took several weekends, I discovered an entire new species of insect, but where other naturalists might have weakly cordoned off the area or made a phone call to David Attenborough, I made the firm decision to destroy all known specimens before it proliferated.

My most amazing discovery, though, was the fact that there is one science which has actually gone backwards in the last 30 years and is now more primitive than it used to be. That science is meteorology. So primitive is meteorology that no weatherman has ever issued an appeal for the protection of a rare kind of cloud or warned that *cirro-cumulus* is being hunted to extinction.

Thirty years ago meteorology seemed to be on the verge of a breakthrough. Clouds would be seeded by flying weathermen, we were told. Long-range forecasts would become better and longer. Satellite photography would tell us more and more. Nothing of the sort happened. The campaign to cause rain by seeding came to an end several years ago in utter failure with, I believe, one small shower to show for 30 years' effort. Long-range forecasts have been withdrawn because they are so inaccurate. And satellite photos still have to have the outline of Britain drawn on them so that anyone can make out anything at all.

The only advance chalked up in 30 years is the surrender to females over the question of hurricanes. Once given only female names, they are named after men as well, but as the last one I read about was called Hurricane Raymond, I do not think this can be called a real advance.

I now realize that I was slightly unfair to meteorologists, and that they have advanced significantly on one front: packaging. It has long been an axiom of big business that if you can't improve the product, you can always improve the packaging and increase the price. If you can't make the weather forecasting better, you can at least improve the style of it, so there has been a quiet revolution in the dressing-up of weathermen coming in across the screen like a warm front.

Symbols on the weather maps have become brighter and better, with more colours, more playschool drawings on them, more numbers lying around. And the weathermen have learnt the art of switching the symbols around on the map so quickly that the eye is deceived. Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between the average weatherman and Paul Daniels.

There are so many maps and colours and photos and symbols and weathermen's smiles that we don't notice, in the middle of the conjuring, that the patter is exactly the same as it always was: terminally vague except about things they can really be sure of. Last week I heard a rare example of a weatherman committing himself this morning in London it will be rainy, he said, but this will clear at lunchtime and the afternoon will be bright. In fact, it rained all afternoon. After 30 years, they still can't get the afternoon right in the morning.

Of course they are right a lot of the time. So they should be. By the law of averages they are going to be right about everything at least 50 per cent of the time. But still they take refuge behind the sort of fuzzy language that distinguishes racing tipsters and politicians. This week I brought myself again to ring up the British Telecom Weatherline (another bit of grand dressing up) and heard the following words, several times in fact to make sure I'd heard right:

"Clearer weather will spread from the west in the evening. In these clearer conditions it will become rather misty, and fog patches will form later."

Everything's clear?

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 199)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9						
11						
13						
14	15					
16						
21						
23						
24						

ACROSS  
1 Since 1945 (7)  
5 Blacksmith's block (3)  
8 Social insect (3)  
9 Russian government (7)  
10 Human trunk (5)  
11 Common interest group (4)  
12 Christian recluses (7)  
14 Adolescent study (6,7)  
16 Dirty (7)  
18 Idiot (4)  
21 Authoritative command (5)  
22 Whimsy (7)  
23 Day before (3)  
24 Softened (5)  
25 Gothic vaulting ribs (7)

DOWN  
1 Job (4)  
2 Cartridge (3)  
3 Withificial friends (4,9)  
4 Large stove (5)  
5 With a good view (2,3,5)  
6 Variant (7)  
7 Made less tight (8)  
8 Windy star pillar (5)  
13 Extremely poisonous (3)  
15 Minority group (7)  
17 Winding stair pillar  
19 Symbol (5)  
20 Semi-circular street (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 198  
ACROSS: 1 Light 5 Mumble 8 Tee 9 Minder  
10 Locus 11 Tym 12 Taffeta 14 Hypochondriac 15 Swelling 16 Sack 21 Dry rot  
23 Tease 24 Lei 25 Severe 26 Extent  
6 Mac 7 La Scala 13 Fare 14 Stretch 5 Melts  
16 Nightie 18 Isle 20 T\*\*\*on 22 Rue

مكتبة من الأصل

## FRIDAY PAGE

spare.

# RibOutwrite link

## Newsheets from the battlefield

Most women these days are, at least in a lukewarm and personal fashion. We demand responsibility for our own tax returns, make informed choices about the birth of our babies, raise hell over sexual harassment at work. And raising our awareness even further are the myriad feminist magazines that have appeared over the last decade.

Mostly their circulations are small, but there are so many that collectively they make quite an impact. The more amateurish or *outre* spring up and waltz before wholeblood collectives or Polytech libraries have even caught up with them, but some are stayers. *Spare Rib* has been around for more than ten years and has burrowed its way into the lives of women who at one time would not have dreamed of looking inside its covers. It sells 30,000 copies a month and distribution is erratic. In rural areas just getting hold of a copy can be quite a task. Even so, feminist magazines are becoming more available throughout the country as women's groups proliferate.

There are special interest publications for women working in the arts, for lesbians, there are those that drip with magic and matriarchy, those devoted to feminist poetry and some so radical that their editors forbid showing them to men.

Almost all of them make extensive use of readers' letters, which are fascinating reading. Ten years ago the letters were either horror stories of male oppression or, more commonly, fan-mail of the "Dear

Sisters, without this mag my life would be a desert" variety.

While there is still plainly quite a lot of male oppression for sisters to share, the gushing praise has given way to violent argument and frequent threats to cancel subscriptions. It is as bewildering as intruding on a major family row, and as compulsive.

Feminist Zionists are at the throats of feminist pro-Palestinians, black radicals are refusing offers of solidarity from white, lesbian and heterosexual women and each feel that the others get more sympathy from the women's press. There is evident pain and hurt in the thrashing out of these issues, which are seen as dangerous dividers of women and potential destroyers of the Cause.

In political terms within the Women's Liberation Movement these divisions may well be dynamic, but the fury of the quarrels has given to British feminist magazines an acid vitality that is missing in more cosy transatlantic publications.

*Big Mama Rag*, available in this country, is a tabloid newspaper published in Denver, Colorado. Despite the exotic charm of advertisements for the Boulder Lesbian and the Big Mountain Survival Gathering the editorial tone is positively cosy.

*Big Mama Rag* is distributed free to all women prisoners in American goals. I cannot help wondering what they make of its clucky tone.

There was a time when all the British editorial collectives (these

periodicals all seem to be produced by co-operatives) consisted of women called Liz, Maggi and Anni, all very middle-class though evidently liberated from their Royalist mothers. This led to alliances between the primary loyalty of the magazine and other worthy, liberal, middle-class causes.

The explosive arrival of black and working-class women into feminism is changing this, but it lingers in some magazines such as *Sequel*, a non-profit, bi-monthly magazine for isolated lesbians". It clearly fulfills a need, and its short stories, poems and cartoons are streets ahead of the polemic that passes for art in most feminist circles.

All the same its readers are reminded inside the front cover that "Sequel reflects our support of ecology, the animal liberation movement and we encourage vegetarianism and veganism". There may somewhere be a journal for meat-eating lesbians who use shampoos tested on rabbits, but I have not come across it.

Divisiveness on this level is a vicarious garden party compared with the splits along lines of class and race that are threatening to tear apart even the long-established *Spare Rib*. One minor mercy in this bitter wrangle is that the readers of the magazines are too furious to tinker about with language in a way once obligatory: the irritating

fashion is fading whereby history became always "herstory" and women were called "wombyn" or "wimmin" or simply "♀" in order to avoid puffing the oppressor.

The hard world of radical feminism, as reflected in its press, is becoming harder. In the early days of the movement, women banded together spontaneously, held by the excitement of fighting self-evident wrongs. Growing consciousness of the horrific plight of their sisters in the Third World, who suffer genital mutilation in the Sudan, are shot in Iran and starve in India, has led to a left-wing, internationalist political stance in the magazines that is not always shared by white women who feel themselves to be second-class citizens in Kettering or Cumber-

ism. Their women-only policy I have some sympathy with, having once shown a copy to a sympathetic, gentle, feminist sort of man who then spent the rest of the day vilifying it. But when I telephoned them, however, to get a good quote from the collective explaining the benefits of banning men from reading it, they flew into a collective tizzy and have never phoned back.

O male readers of *The Times*, I will not deny their wishes and quote bits of their articles for you to scorn: but, female readers, you could do worse than send for a copy and have your ideas shaken up.

One real problem of the international anti-racist sisterhood is that it makes for heavy political reading. Many women have opted out into magical matriarchy, which is obviously great fun but a lot less justifiable.

It ranges from the simplistic to the complex. Some preach giving up the feminist uniform of jeans and clogs that is seen as "making an act of solidarity with the late patriarchal world". Matriarchists are not conventionally left-wing, for they see Marxism as reformist tinkering within a context of the male power that they seek to overthrow. These women call for a return to long dresses, long hair and head-coverings for themselves and their sisters, though before the Ayatollahs welcome them with open arms they should examine the ideology which underlies the dress.

This is expounded at length in *The Coming Age*, a quarterly

publication which announces itself as "The Definitive Introduction to Matriarchy and the Feminine Tradition". The theology synthesizes Egyptian, Cretan and British Iron Age images with Mary, Amazons and putative goddesses from Irish prehistory. There is a rebirth with future lives shaped by actions in this life: there is a creation myth telling how the Dark Mother shaped all things. There are Jungian archetypes and Platonic Ideas; there is a Daughter of God who was born, died and rose again.

Wacky nonsense like this is gaining adherents daily, with rolling bandwagons offering "metamorphic therapy" to unleash female power and every variety of fortune-telling and guidance from the moon.

It is easy for *Private Eye* to fill its loony feminist nonsense slot, and it is harder to give reasons why there should be publications for women who possibly have nothing in common but gender. Yet despite all the public quarrelling in the feminist press over the importance of class, race, education or sexual orientation, as promoters of divisiveness, there is an underlying wish in women's publications to transcend the divisions.

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### All the hacks that fit

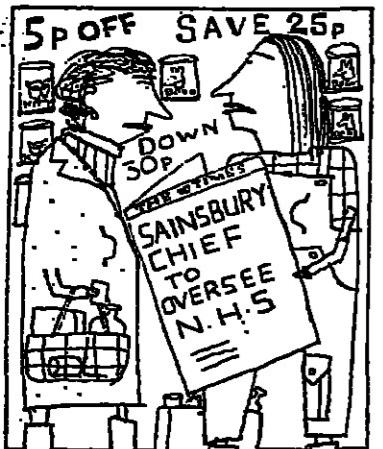
Now that the Caribbean seems to be an almost permanent hotspot, it's good news for the Cuban economy. The Grenadian episode brought 120 western journalists to the Havana Riviera Hotel, all needing rooms, meals, telephones, telex machines and elbow-room at the bar. More hard currency was handed over by the television crews of the four major US networks and our own Channel 4 News and BBC 2's Newsham, who handed over wads of dollars for office and studio facilities at the Cuban television station's headquarters and for satellite communications with which to bounce their reports back to New York and London. The total media bill is thought to be \$200,000 (about £133,000).

Please do not feel ill while staying at the Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich. A doctor will visit at any time, it is true, but the hotel brochure promises "liquidation after agreement".

### Pram's a sham

Nigerians are so reluctant to give up the good life in the face of falling oil revenues that they have developed smuggling into an art form. Videos, for example, come into the country by the container load, marked as baby-carriages. President Shehu Shagari is so concerned that he is setting up a Ministry of National Guidance to implement an "ethical reorientation programme". Economic sabotage, which also includes corruption and fraud, has not only become institutionalized, he says, but is "fast becoming a business pursuit in our country".

BARRY FANTONI



### Long runner

The yellow 1934 Daimler, owned by the Spectator's proprietor, Algry Cliff, and offered to the winner of that magazine's current competition, had not been driven for several years when it was taken out of storage and marked First Prize. On examination, its big end was found to be faulty. This has now been repaired and the motor car is in perfect running order.

### Backing Brittan

Having been severely criticized for his muddled speech during the Commons debate on capital punishment, Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, slightly redeemed himself with an altogether more fluent discourse on law and order at his party's Blackpool conference last month. This speech might well have been a disaster, too, if Brittan had not been allowed to have his way. He has planned, in his oration, to protect, at any cost, not public order or safety, but private property. Luckily, he was persuaded by more experienced hands that this was not the sort of thing a minister should say aloud.

### Men wage war

Ominous-sounding news for women workers hoping to challenge inequalities at work under the new equal pay legislation, due to come into force next January 1: the impression one gets from a document issued by Hambros Housley Legal Protection Ltd is that the nation's businessmen will be fighting the new laws to the death. To help them, Hambros Housley is setting up a hot-line to help "the hard-pressed businessman" fight off aggressive females armed with a copy of the pertinent regulations. In case this presents a too-depressing picture, Hambros Housley admits that "some companies will suffer less than others from this latest piece of employment legislation".

### On a loser

Last week, it was reported on our financial pages that in 1980, a good year for aviation insurance, Syndicate 862 lost £17,000 for every £10,000 of premium income written. Some of the more heavily committed syndicate members, including jockey Lester Piggott, have as a result lost more than £50,000. While other members are threatening to reach for their solicitors, Piggott has not so far complained. This is perhaps out of loyalty to Mr Charles St George, chairman of the Oakley Vaughan Agency. This is the outfit that managed the hapless Syndicate 862 when it achieved a 170 per cent loss, while the Lloyds Aviation market as a whole was turning in respectable profits. Ten years ago, Piggott owed one of his most famous victories to Mr St George's horse Rheingold, which he rode to a splendid victory in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

PHS

## How 'social' abuses the language: F. A. Hayek on Newspeak exemplified



## Beware this weasel word

Friedrich von Hayek, the Austrian economist, won a Nobel Prize in 1974. His work on monetarism has profoundly influenced the policies of Margaret Thatcher's government. This article is taken from work in progress reproduced in *The Salisbury Review*.

despotism can be achieved democratically, while preserving the freedom of the individual, can also be maintained if the word "democratic" is emasculated into "social democratic".

It would require a separate book to show how much this magic word has in a great variety of connexions misled policy; making proposals seem incontrovertibly good merely by labelling the particular interest which they serve as "social". "Social" has in fact become a class concept, authorizing one class to help itself from the pockets of another, and extending democracy from a device limiting the arbitrary power of a few to a procedure that makes any coercive power legitimate so long as the delegates of the majority think that their decisions will gain additional votes by means of it. Because of this, "social" has in a great measure taken the place of the difficult but important conception of common interest, and is now applied to much that is clearly contrary to any true common interest.

Much the worst of the deceptive uses of "social" is in the phrase "social justice". It is, as a distinguished man much more courageous than I bluntly expressed it 25 years ago, "a semantic fraud from the same stable as People's Democracy" (Charles Curran, *The Spectator*, July 4, 1958).

The alarming extent to which the term has already perverted the thinking of the younger generation is illustrated by a recent Oxford doctor's thesis on *Social Justice* (David Miller, 1976). The author barely notices the traditional conception of justice, his attitude to which is typified by the remark that "there appears to be a category of 'private justice' which concerns the dealings of man with his fellows when he is not acting as a participant in one of the major social institutions". Throughout the

thesis, justice is consistently treated anthropomorphically, as the manner in which a personified "society" "treats" the different individuals who belong to it. The fact is that "society" would not exist, nor would most of its members be alive, if their relative income were determined by this second kind of "justice". The product to feed them would normally be available only in conditions which also determine its distribution.

It is as meaningless to call this spontaneous distribution unjust as it would be to call it just. It is simply not capable of bearing such an attribute. Only human actions can be just or unjust; the task of government cannot be to create just conditions, but only to prevent unjust actions. To describe as just or unjust a state of affairs that men have not and could not have created, and to which most of them owe their existence, is giving expression to fantasies in socialist baby language. It would indeed be pleasing to our feelings if the world had been made by an almighty spirit whose views about what is desirable were the same as ours. But our present wisdom is not ultimate wisdom and if it had guided evolution, we should never have climbed down from the trees.

A product of evolution can only be preserved by the same process of continuous adaptation to unforeseen circumstances as that which had produced it in the first place. Evolution cannot be static, since it operates by giving people what they did not foresee or intend. All evolution is the result of changing blindly on a modification of conduct better adapted to objective conditions than the traditional ones. To believe that one can improve this by assigning appropriate rewards to those who do best, is to presume that we are already as wise as only yet further experience can make us. If for the last two or three hundred years a government had effectively enforced the prevailing conceptions of "social justice", civilization - and the number of people which it maintains - could never have appeared.

Of course, a consistent socialism emphasizes that only if we could give a supreme authority unlimited power to force the individuals to do what this authority thinks to be desirable could anything like social justice be achieved. That this would deprive us of the main source of our capacity to rear and maintain millions is disregarded. The great illusion is that freedom and just distribution can be combined. Communism is in this regard at least logically consistent, while democratic socialism is simply muddled.

Bryan Appleyard on the struggle behind the scenes for control of state subsidies

Early next week the 250 recipients of annual Arts Council subsidies will receive a rather odd letter. Destined to be known as The Ilkley Letter it was conceived at a three-day brainstorming session at the Craiglands Hotel, Ilkley, to which the members of the council retreated last month to confront the future.

The bemused management of theatres, orchestras, opera and ballet companies will be asked what would happen to them if (a) their subsidy was withdrawn or drastically cut or (b) if it was substantially increased. They must reply by the end of the year and by March 31 next year the council will have drawn its conclusions to be acted upon in 1985-86.

They should consider their answers carefully because this strange, oblique approach represents perhaps the most important new direction since the Arts Council was founded almost 40 years ago. It comes at the end of one difficult year for the council and marks the beginning of another. The outcome will either be a successful defence of the council's traditions of welfare-inspired crusading on behalf of the arts and of its belief in the separation of central government from the creativity it supports - or it will be their defeat.

Although the official council line is that The Ilkley Letter is a logical development which would have happened anyway, it is directly related to three major documents which have emerged from Westminster over the past year.

The first was the Select Committee report on *Public and Private Funding of the Arts*, published in October 1982. This began well for the Arts Council with its enthusiastic endorsement of the centrality of the arts in British life and their economic importance. Their turnover was estimated at about £1,000m and they were thought to employ at least 200,000 people. More advanced statistical analysis has since suggested that, when broadcasting, publishing and all ancillary industries are brought in, the true turnover may be as high as £3,000m.

The bad news followed. The report had serious doubts about the present structure of the council. It recommended significant levels of devolution to the regions and away from the headquarters at 105 Piccadilly. It also called for funds for the national arts companies to be previously earmarked by the Government, removing a large part of the council's ability to control its own destiny. The response from 105 ranged from the unenthusiastic to the bitter.

Then came the government scrutiny of the financial affairs of the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Again the scrutinizer, Clive Pritchett, began with the good news: neither



Lord Gowrie, aiming for a ministry with muscle? Right, Rees-Mogg and Ritter, fighting for their future

## Ilkley: the art of hitting back

organization was unduly profligate, both were underfunded and both were central to our way of life. But... Pritchett floated the idea of direct funding of the national companies without any Arts Council involvement. That would mean slicing off the four peaks of the pyramid of excellence - the RSC, the ROH, the National Theatre and the English National Opera - leaving the council with the remainder. That would mark the end of its role as sole guardian of the great and good in British arts and an end to the precious "arm's length" principle which has supposedly kept politics out of the arts. Lord Goodman, the arch representative of the old school of arts subsidy thinking, demanded Pritchett's scruples left at once when he discovered them at a Covent Garden board meeting. He was too late.

Finally along came *Streamlining the Cities*, the White Paper outlining the Government's plans for abolition of the top tier local authorities. This would leave dozens of arts organizations without local subsidies, so the Government was obliged to come up with specific alternative funding proposals.

Again the inhabitants of 105 were dismayed. One describes the proposals as "Option Z - a fallback position that is so far back it is out of sight," another more succinctly labelled them as "absolute bloody nonsense." In essence the proposals singled out nine performing arts companies and five museums and art galleries as being of national importance. These would receive an increase in central support. As for the rest they would have to seek local authority money and commercial sponsorship to carry on.

"There is great scope for entrepreneurial initiative in this field", remarked the government drafter with a consummate blandness that caused apoplexy at 105. The point is, they say, that there is no compulsion on local authorities to take up the financial slack, and commercial sponsorship is simply not the goldmine the Government appears to believe.

In this apocalyptic context the Ilkley Letter can be seen as an attempt by the council to take the initiative. It is clear that Sir William Rees-Mogg, the relatively new chairman, and Luke Ritter, the relatively new secretary general, now

think the greatest danger lies in doing nothing. The implication of the letter is that the council is, in the words of one member, going to make its grants "feasthold rather than freehold" and is prepared to get its way to the ends.

The present situation also makes it clear that Rees-Mogg and Ritter are far from the Tory party placentia identified in the more hysterical outpourings from the predominantly left-wing Arts Council. They are now fighting for the quality of their future lives as much as anybody else.

Their primary tactic appears to be to attempt to embarrass Lord Gowrie, the Arts Minister. If all the most dire predictions being made come true he will find himself being put down in history as the Arts Minister who presided over a drastic contraction of the subsidized arts.

So far he has indicated that he does not wish to see the national companies directly funded, but he could still go for "carmarking" of cash to be channelled through a necessarily passive council. Meanwhile streamlining of the authorities looks larger, although the more wildly optimistic at 105 are pinning their hopes on the belief that it will never happen.

Infinitely preferable to the Cabinet may well be a large element of direct funding, with a slimmed-down Arts Council responsible for general and future planning rather than simply struggling to get the cheque out so the curtain may rise at the Bristol Old Vic. Lord Gowrie's move on his appointment in separating the arts from the Department of Education and Science could eventually be seen as the first step along this road to a Ministry of Culture. Senior civil servants have already been heard to refer to the arts as a "mini-ministry".

So the trend is towards taking more of the arts into Whitehall. The Ilkley Letter is an indication that the council has seen the importance of visibly taking charge of its own destiny as a counter to any such moves. It is a morale booster and unifying force at 105. Yet there remain those who persist in seeing a terrible portent in the title of the play the whole council trooped out to see at Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre on the first night of the Ilkley brainstorm - it was *The Dance of Death*.

Philip Howard

## Links that bind but do not tie down

Writing about the Grenada affair two weeks ago, I argued that we had been given another painful demonstration of the need for better machinery within the Western Alliance for coping with crises outside the Nato area. It is an old theme of mine that these misunderstandings will continue to tear us apart unless and until the Europeans and Americans can offer each other a fair exchange in relation to third world instability; on the European side, responsible cooperation; and on the American, genuine consultations.

Since then Kenneth Dam, the US Deputy Secretary of State, has come and gone on his placatory mission to Downing Street and events in Lebanon have blown his soothing words straight back into his face. Mrs Thatcher has told him that she does not think that a punitive American raid, with the Israelis, on the alleged perpetrators of the attack on the US Marines would be wise at the moment when a conference of the Lebanese parties is making a desperate attempt in Geneva at a settlement.

Mr Dam was obliged to say that he noted her views but could give no assurance that the President would take a bit of notice of what she said. What is more, he could not give her any guarantees that the US would not allow the resumption of arms sales to Argentina - which is as she had remarked to him that the British Government were considering the early export of explosives to the Syrians and possibly other lorries to carry them in.

On the face of it all this undermines the original point. Our relationship with the US is clearly in difficulties if this kind of chilly and superficial exchange is the best consultation that can be achieved. Yet there are other legitimate ways of looking at the matter.

Two main lines of attack on my original thesis have come to light. The first is the pragmatic Establishment position, which has been weakly explained to me by politicians and bureaucrats of more than one party and more than one department. It goes something like this: "For years and years we have been trying to improve consultation, and since the Afghan fiasco we have redoubled our efforts. As a result Nato (and even the French within Nato) now permits itself to discuss these matters. The seven-nation summit deliberates upon them. The Berlin powers (the US, Britain, France and West Germany) use their meetings as a tactical cover for a 'Directorate' to argue over them. There are endless consultations through the Washington embassies. There are ad hoc groups such as the meeting in Paris last week of the foreign ministers of countries contributing to the peacekeeping force in Lebanon."

This again is all very well, but, like the first objection, leaves too many holes. Can we really maintain US support in Europe if we, the Europeans, are not willing to be involved outside Europe? And in the extraordinary dangerous circumstances of today where a world conflagration could easily flare out of regional conflict, is not some consultation with the US, even if inadequate, better than none? It is too early, as I write, to be sure whether British and French advice on the Lebanon will be needed; but isn't it true that if we had not taken the risk of exposing a detachment of British soldiers to the hazards of the crisis and the criticisms of Enoch Powell, we should have had no standing in the Lebanon argument whatever?

It seems to me that these arguments do indeed show that there is a point at which the law of diminishing returns sets in. In other words, one cannot hope to tie down a superpower at every point as the Lithuanians did Gdansk. Further interests are involved. The Americans will ultimately break loose whatever the rights and wrongs of the argument; and there is no point in completely destroying our own freedom of action in order to produce this result. And yet to the Grenada affair and the shadow of what might happen in the Gulf if, say, the Iranians blocked the Straits of Hormuz, suggests that consultation could be quite a lot better without being unrealistic. Whether the present US administration, or indeed the present European governments, are prepared to make necessary compromises is another question.

Philip Howard

## Sour grapes about the fruit machines

My heart warmed to Sir Douglas Wass when I heard that he had described one of his political masters as the only man in England who could spend all day reading the *Daily Mail*. To spend even 30 seconds reading it is quite enough, except on Thursdays, when the lead (and pretty well the only) book reviewer is a good, perverse read. The trouble I have with the *Mail* is hiding it under the other papers so that I am not spotted by my high-minded neighbours as a shameless *Mail*-reader. I get the gashly things only because it is promising to make me a millionaire.

Who wants to be a millionaire? My family has come to the conclusion that the only hope we have of getting a new secondhand car to replace the old war-chariot, which is using a tank of oil to a tank of petrol, and making terminal noise of tiredness, is to win one of these competitions in the tabloid press that appeal to our avarice, greed, and other human qualities. I am well aware that my chances of winning a million are as remote as my chances of singing counter-tenor at Covent Garden or playing striker for England. But if you do not try for such nonsense, you will never be rich.

The trouble is that the various gambling competitions, with silly names such as Bonanza, are of a trivial complexity quite beyond me. I have never had the patience to understand how to work a fruit machine. When given an instruction like, "If any of the numbers below refer to balls that are circled in black on Super Snooker Frame One on your card . . ." and carrying on for several paragraphs, the old mind clouds over, I am back at prep school on a hot summer afternoon trying to understand the difference between permutations and combinations, and I decide to forget it. Snooker all those balls circled in black. No doubt it would take Sir Douglas Wass less than all day to work out the jargon of the competitions, but not if he had me beside him making helpful suggestions.

I am certainly not going to start reading the horoscopes just to keep up with the barbarians. All astrology is hogwash and piffle, a way of pointing the simple-minded to stars. I am dismayed by its raging popularity with my intelligent and rational fellow-citizens. To say: "Of course I don't believe in it, but I always have a look at my stars; just for a laugh", is a betrayal of one's intelligence. It is *la trahison des clercs*. Fruit machines and competitions to make me a millionaire, possibly Scorpions and the cusps of Virgo, not on your Nostradamus. The thing to do is to resign oneself to not being a millionaire. The thing to do with barbarians is to civilize them. The Romans did it with notable success to those who came over the Danube. Rome felt that the Italians, the French, the Spanish, and the others who sprung from the ruins are not notably uncivilized.

كذا من الأصل



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## TEBBIT LAW IS THE LAW

We have not heard the last of the Mercury case. Wednesday's Appeal Court hearing was technically Act Two of a ponderous three-act curtain-raiser. Act Three (scene: The House of Lords) will follow in about three weeks, and the formal presentation of the main drama will not take the stage till well into next year. The judges who have twice considered whether in the meantime to grant Mercury an injunction against blocking by the Post Office Engineering Union have done so by a process of guesswork as to the likely ending of the last Act.

The balance of likelihood has been sharply altered by the dramatic courtroom stroke of revealing a job security agreement which casts into doubt the union's claim that its motives were "wholly or mainly" industrial, as the law requires, rather than political. If job security was the real issue, surely the union would at least have mentioned the agreement, if only to ask for it to be strengthened. But whatever the final twist may prove to be, the case already appears to be a significant landmark in the history of relations between trade unions and government. For the POEU has bowed its head to the 1982 Act.

One question has hung over the Government's series of legislative salutes against the privileges of the trade unions: hardly anyone has used them. The new powers enabling aggrieved parties to seek damages from unions engaged in certain kinds of industrial action, which

formerly had immunity, have scarcely been resorted to. At the same time, the recession has imposed its own curbs on workers' readiness to jeopardise their jobs by striking. Is the fall in the number of disputes due only to this, a phenomenon to be reversed when times improve? Or are the new laws a factor too - available to be invoked even though not actually brought into play? Or would a union defy them if it felt its essential interests were at stake, and perhaps draw the whole movement into a confrontation?

There is no doubt that many POEU members feel that their essential interests were at stake in the Mercury case. The union entered the dispute with all the sense of rectitude of a normally moderate union which is unused to the tactical calculations of industrial warfare, and has recently put its fortunes in the hands of left-wing leaders who voice its sense of grievance. This is a characteristic pattern pointing to an obstinate and destructive - even self-destructive - conflict. The union had cast itself as trail-blazer for the rest of the labour movement, wherever public sector workers were faced with the threat of privatization, and was hoping for support (in funds and sympathetic action) from other unions. But the granting of the injunction has led both executive and delegate conference to vote for a return to work. The penalties of defiance, falling on union funds as well as individuals, were just too heavy.

Closer inspection may make the matter seem rather less clear-

## TOGETHERNESS IN BONN

There is a very comfortable feel about Anglo-German relations at the moment, as Mrs Thatcher found on her visit to Bonn this week. On the personal level she gets on much better with Herr Kohl than with his somewhat abrasive socialist predecessor, who had the added disadvantage from her point of view of being her senior in office and not anxious to forget it. Herr Kohl is a relative new boy with an easy personality and less ideological baggage, a sort of German Whitelaw whom she feels at home, although very different in temperament.

On the political level as well the two conservative governments have drawn closer. Both are determined to press ahead with deployment of the new American missiles as long as there is no agreement in Geneva. Both would be happy to have their numbers reduced if there were an agreement after deployment, though the British are rather more sceptical of the chances of such an agreement. Both leaders have been some-

what bruised by the lack of consultation before the Americans act in Grenada, and by the boost which this has given to anti-American sentiment. Herr Kohl was not consulted at all, and Mrs Thatcher was consulted but not needed. But the damage has not gone deep, and Herr Kohl, at any rate, seems untroubled, although the pressure he faces from the protest groups is greater.

Meanwhile in the European Community both countries are net contributors and both are feeling the pinch at home, so there is more agreement than there was on the need for reform. Until recently the Germans, while admitting the need, were very cautious about pressing for real change. Now they seem more likely to join Britain in demanding action.

The Anglo-German relationship has obviously become closer since the Socialist victory in France. Mrs Thatcher admires Mitterrand's foreign policy but the French have become distrustful of Germany, which casts

fortune to get into difficulties first and who for the moment appear to be following prescribed courses, and immediately before the Argentines. The International Monetary Fund, far from crisis-free itself, cannot afford loss of authority, though it has shown a large measure of sympathy towards the Brazilian case.

How many of the intentions in Brazil's letter of intent can be fulfilled remains to be seen. The current agreement is a welcome temporary solution, but nobody believes that it is anything more than that. The extent of Brazil's indebtedness, as with Mexico, gives the borrower a conceivable weapon of defence against the demands of the lender. The Brazilians will be negotiating again in a year or so, many observers believe, under a newly-elected government, the first elected government in twenty years. Will the Fund or the bankers or - just as important - the debtors themselves who will all by then have been through a further cycle of rescues in Argentina, in Venezuela, in Chile and Peru, have devised any new thinking to break out of the moral hazard of international debt?

This is inevitably reflected in politics. President Figueiredo still has extensive powers, and he can invoke emergencies, but he cannot so easily invoke authority. He comes at the end of two decades of military rule, and the political advances of the last years make a return to repression no simple matter, especially at foreign behest. The government is not practised in bargaining, but it faces an opposition that will demand political concessions for what austerity it is prepared to grant.

The Fund and the bankers repeat that they are confident that successive debt crises can be managed, one at a time. The timing also colours each crisis, and the Brazilians are perhaps unlucky in coming after the Mexicans, who had the good

fortune to get into difficulties first and who for the moment appear to be following prescribed courses, and immediately before the Argentines. The International Monetary Fund, far from crisis-free itself, cannot afford loss of authority, though it has shown a large measure of sympathy towards the Brazilian case.

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At present, the GLC employs only four inspectors to handle cinema and public entertainment licensing for the whole of Greater London: a certain formula for producing the "patchy and inconsistent" services he claims will result from a London borough takeover.

Compare this completely inadequate provision with Westminster's approach to the licensing of sex shops, with a self-contained unit of lawyers and inspectors, and Mr Livingstone's argument is destroyed.

## Role of the GLC

From the Leader of Westminster City Council

Sir, GLC Leader Ken Livingstone's assertion (October 31) that the public would be put at risk if the London boroughs take over the licensing of theatres and cinemas is completely ludicrous.

At present, the GLC employs only four inspectors to handle cinema and public entertainment licensing for the whole of Greater London: a certain formula for producing the "patchy and inconsistent" services he claims will result from a London borough takeover.

Compare this completely inadequate provision with Westminster's approach to the licensing of sex shops, with a self-contained unit of lawyers and inspectors, and Mr Livingstone's argument is destroyed.

In a recent interview Mr Living-

stone said the general public were not at all interested in entertainment licensing, which he dismissed as "of little importance". This shows how out of touch he is with local London affairs.

Westminster's initiative in producing sex shop licensing legislation was a reflection of local concern at the effects of the industry on community life. Our determined campaigning on this issue has brought benefits not only for London but for the rest of the country and the assumption of responsibility for cinema and public entertainment can only serve to increase the pressure on the sex industry in Soho.

Local control over all aspects of public entertainment is to be welcomed. It is the only way to ensure that community interests are given proper attention.

This is the real point at issue on

GLC abolition: closer attention to the individual needs of the boroughs with full financial accountability to the local communities, something that Mr Livingstone's GLC administration has consistently failed to do.

Mr Livingstone claims that individual boroughs' financial situations may affect the level of service they can provide, an argument he consistently puts forward as a reason for keeping the GLC intact. His naive mathematics overlook the fact that hundreds of millions of pounds are given to the GLC every year in local rate precepts, money that could be more usefully directed to local services at less cost to the ratepayers. Yours sincerely,

SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader, Westminster City Council, PO Box 240, Westminster City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1.

## Still a need for Crown Agents

From Sir John Cuckney

Sir, Towards the end of the secondary banking crisis in 1974, when I became Senior Crown Agent and Chairman, I inherited an historic and excellent organisation which in one area, and one area alone, was in difficulties; namely, in its own account dealings.

The background to these problems and how they arose has been exhaustively examined, first by the Pay committee appointed in 1975 and reporting in 1977, and secondly by a 1981 Act tribunal of inquiry appointed in 1978 and reporting in 1982.

The most significant issue to emerge from these lengthy and thorough examinations was not what the Crown Agents had done but rather how they could have been allowed to operate in this way at all. However, when reflecting on those wise investments - even with the benefit of hindsight - we should remember that it is impossible accurately to recreate the atmosphere in which those investment decisions were taken and that there were many reputable financial institutions which were also found wanting during that particular period.

From the time that the 1974 crisis became a public issue and throughout the many years of investigations and reports surrounded by international publicity the Crown Agents' traditional business not only survived but flourished. Recently it has been talk of closure following a setback caused by the loss of one major customer.

I have maintained a keen interest in the Crown Agents' fortunes since leaving in 1978 and I would like to join the Director General of the CBI and others in pleading that they be allowed to continue their unique and valuable service especially to developing countries.

Many small and medium-sized British companies find that the Crown Agents' operations are of great value in their own export efforts. Last year more than 2,400 private companies benefited from nearly £40m of export contracts as a direct result of the Crown Agents' work.

I do not wish to catalogue the varied and valuable services the Crown Agents provide, but must emphasize that much of their work is not immediately quantifiable. Working in over 72 different countries, they have developed good will towards the UK, a predilection for British goods and services and for British standards and expertise.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN CUCKNEY,  
The Athenaeum,  
Pall Mall, SW1.

November 9.

## The peace movement

From Ms Sarah Haskins

Sir, A low standard of journalism is now expected from papers such as the *Sun* and *Daily Star*, but surely not *The Times*? And not in the lead? Your comment (November 3) that "credit must also be given to the women of Greenham Common, his (Mr Heseltine's) most reliable allies in the battle for middle opinion" and that it was "ungrateful of him... to appear to be ready to shoot them" must surely go down in the records as one of your paper's most patronising and, yes, sickeningly pompous remarks in its long history.

The fact that in this area the Christian Democrats have continued the policies of the Social Democrats shows that it is as much a question of national interest as of coalition politics. Mrs Thatcher obviously understands this and has herself spoken recently of the need for dialogue, so she has a valuable role to play in helping the Germans to feel less alone.

Yours faithfully,

SARAH HASKINS,  
81 Kelvin Road, NS.

November 9.

## Planning for leisure

From Mr G. F. C. Rogers

Sir, I write to support Sir Ian Hunter's proposal (October 24) for a Council for Amateur Activities and I have a suggestion for such a council's agenda.

Citizens with intellectual interests are well provided with public libraries and those with sporting interests with public sports centres, swimming baths and playing fields. Theatres and arts centres are available for those with artistic leanings.

There is no provision for those whose pleasure lies in handicraft, so why not public handicraft centres?

All city councils possess buildings lying idle: disused warehouses and schools, for example. They could be furnished with woodworking machinery and small metal-working machine tools so that, for a small fee, amateur craftsmen can have the use of equipment that is too large for the ordinary home workshop.

Whatever one's views on defence, to slander itself as in a manner and so constantly women who have shown such persistent courage in fighting the possibility of our nuclear obliteration does, in its turn, invite a sense of gloomy contemplation of the sort of society we are creating for ourselves.

How many times does *The Times* have to be told that women make up half, yes, half, the population of this country? They deserve better treatment than that.

Yours faithfully,

SARAH HASKINS,  
81 Kelvin Road, NS.

November 9.

Farm tenancies

From Mr Oscar Colburn

Sir, Your distinguished correspondents, Mr H. Fell and others (October 25), draw attention to impending legislation which is designed to stabilise or increase in size the tenanted sector of British agriculture. Few people who have studied the subject believe that in its present form the proposed Bill, which is based on an outdated agreement between the CLA (Country Landowners Association) and the NFU (National Farmers' Union), has any chance of achieving its objectives. It seems likely to occupy parliamentary time to little advantage.

There is general agreement that the landlord/tenant system allows rents to rise or fall in relation to cycles of prosperity and depression in a relatively painless fashion and usually without serious interruption to production levels. It retains flexibility for policy making in a way that a continued drift towards owner occupation would make impossible.

It is essential that the tenures of the system should be sustained and reinforced.

Farm tenancies are substantial businesses. Many of them have £500 per acre, or more, invested in their enterprise. It is of importance to the national economy that investment by tenants should continue at a high level. For this reason, short-term leases of various kinds are a poor alternative to secure tenants.

The most compelling motive for success in a high risk, long cycle industry like agriculture is the involvement by resident farmers who have a hope of bequeathing the results of investment and land improvement to competent successors.

For a variety of reasons successive Governments have created disincentives to the economically useful function of letting farm land, while simultaneously encouraging the diversion of scarce capital resources

## 'Hit list' for university closures

From the General Secretary of the Association of University Teachers

Sir, The creation of a so-called "hit list" for closure of universities is probably the most fruitful way of opening up the debate on the future of higher education. Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer (report, November 8) says this is a matter for political decision. The University Grants Committee cannot so neatly sidestep responsibility when the committee is setting the tone for the discussions.

The Secretary of State initiated the debate. He asked for a realistic internal assessment of how standards can be maintained and enhanced. Most universities would agree that such an assessment will depend on the degree of planning they are able to do.

Sir Keith Joseph has pre-empted the debate by suggesting that planning by suggesting that level funding may not be maintained and universities may have to face a 2 per cent per annum cut in resources over the next five years and a continuous 1 per cent drop for five years after that. In other words, the instability which has bedevilled the university sector over the last five years and which has made sensible planning impossible may continue for the next 10 years and possibly beyond.

Sir Keith's proposition is based on two extremely dubious assumptions. The first is that if the Government withdraws public support for the universities substantial funds will be available from industry, or even from private individuals, to restore the balance. This ignores both the efforts already made by universities to attract such funds, and the unwillingness of private industry to commit capital to long-term projects. How funds for research in the arts, humanities or social sciences will be provided is left in considerable doubt.

The debate should really be about whether changes in population

are the second assumption that a substantial drop in the 18-year-old population in the early 1990s will, with only slight modifications, be reflected in the number of qualified entrants to higher education in the same period.

Predictions on the increasing aspirations of women, on the need for continuing education and on social class change, are virtually ignored yet will almost certainly lead to a demand for places that the

Department of Education and Science will have no plans to meet. No consideration has been given to the need for skilled graduate manpower to meet the demands of an increasingly technological society.

Both the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals and the Association of University Teachers have produced alternative figures which cast serious doubts on the Department of Education and Science assumptions, yet the framework for debate about the future has been set in the context of the DES assumption of a substantial drop in students.

This debate should really be about whether changes in population should be used by Government merely for the rationalisation of existing resources, or should be seen as a means of improving opportunity for a much wider proportion of the population.

If the new Chairman of the University Grants Committee can grasp that nettle and translate it into positive action he will indeed be providing a service to the country. Yours faithfully,

DIANA WARWICK,  
General Secretary,  
Association of University Teachers,  
1 Peabody Road, W1.  
November 9.

## Church remarriage of divorcees

From the Reverend Nick Earle

Sir, Of course the Reverend Giles Hunt (November 9) is right: the rewriting of the marriage service is now an urgent priority for the Church of England. And it is not only the vows which must go; so must the imperative: "Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

We have got ourselves into our present muddle, I suggest, for two main reasons. First, we have allowed, if not encouraged, those of all persuasions or none to take vows without any prior assessment either of their understanding of the words they use or of their capacity for giving effect to them.

Secondly, we have rejected all consideration of the possibilities inherent in a declaration of nullity, presumably for fear of conflict with the courts. Yet there must be thousands upon thousands of cases in which there has been no true joining together of the parties, despite their vows, if only because either or both have not really forsaken the parental home.

Sooner or later a limit must be set to the endeavour to be all things to all men, compassionate though that policy may appear to be. For the sake of those who are inhibited from embarking on a parochial ministry by what appears to them to be an invitation to hypocrisy I believe it should be sooner.

Yours faithfully,

NICK EARLE,  
Headmaster,  
Bromsgrove School,  
Worcestershire.  
November 9.

From the Reverend R. G. Dennis

Sir, In all the talk about the practicality of option G, to say nothing of the Very Rev Richard Eyre's "authentic resurrections from previous death", nothing seems to have been said on behalf of those who, being familiar with the plain meaning of words, have accepted that a vow made to another in the presence of God and of witnesses, "till death us do part" means what it says.



## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
November 10: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this evening attended a Reception and Dinner, in aid of the Children's Services of the Very Club of Great Britain and the Army Benevolent Fund at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 10: The Duke of Gloucester presented Structural Steel Design Awards at a Luncheon at Savoy Hotel, London. In the evening His Royal Highness was present at a Concert to mark the 21st Anniversary of the Independence of Jamaica, at Kensington Town Hall.

Lu-Clo Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
November 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, along with Prince Charles, the Royal British Legion Field of Remembrance at St Margaret's Church Westminster.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Major John Griffin were in attendance.

Her Majesty was present this afternoon at a Reception given to mark the Golden Jubilee of the National Advisory Council for Care of Women at the University of London Institute of Education.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gillett were in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 10: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting of The Prince's Council at the Duchy of Cornwall Office, 10 Buckingham Gate SW1.

The Hon Edward Adelene and Mr John Higgs were in attendance.

**Luncheons**  
Constrado  
The Duke of Gloucester was the principal guest and presented the 1983 Structural Steel Design Awards for the Thames Barrier Rising Sector Gates and the Chelsea-le-Suret Civic Centre at a luncheon at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Mr Gordon Sambrook, Chairman of the General Steel Group of the British Steel Corporation, presided accompanied by Mr Guy Barrett, President of the British Constructional Steelwork Association. Those attending included:

The Presidents of the Royal Institute of Civil Engineers, Mr Brian Scriven, Mr Martin Briggs, Mr Peter Arrowsmith, Mr Michael Woodward, members of the Royal Society of Engineers, Mr G. Hartnett, Mr P. Duncan, Mr Geoffrey Farnham, Mr H. W. Watson, Mr L. Martin, and Mr Alan Muir Wood.

**Foreign Press Association**  
Mr Robert Darroch, Vice-President of the Foreign Press Association in London, and Mr David Adamson, President of the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers' Association of Britain, were the joint chairmen at a luncheon held yesterday at 11 Carlton House Terrace. Mr Shridath Ramphal was the guest of honour.

**Dinners**  
Windsor Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders' Association  
The Rev Roger Royle was guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Windsor Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders' Association held last night at Windsor Castle. Mr I. Holland-Bradyshaw, president of the association, was in the chair. Other guests were: Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, Lieutenant-General Sir John Johnson, Mr J. M. Strawn, Mr R. Watson, Mr Russell Wood, Mr Roland Lewis, Mr Hugh Pashford and the Rev David Grimes.

**Association of Women Solicitors (1919 Club)**  
Lord Scarman and the President of the Law Society, Mr Christopher Hewett, were the guests of honour and speakers at a dinner

given by the Association of Women Solicitors (1919 Club) at Butchers' Hall yesterday to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the association. Mrs Marilyn Stanley, chairman, presided.

**Fruturers' Company**

The Master and Wardens' dinner of the Fruturers' Company was held yesterday at Inner Temple Hall. The Master, Mr L. E. Fulford, presided and the other speakers were Alderman and Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, Mr R. W. Whittaker, Mr R. E. Sturms, Renate Warden, and Mr J. C. Airey, Clerk.

The guests included the Masters of the Company of Master Mariners and the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames and Dr J. Campbell.

**Service luncheon**

Royal Artillery Council of Scotland  
Brigadier S. P. Robertson presided at the Autumn luncheon of the Royal Artillery Council of Scotland held yesterday at Army Headquarters, Scotland, Craigiehall, Edinburgh. The guests were Major General M. J. Tomlinson, Brigadier R. W. Riddle, Colonel D. A. N. Miers and Major D. J. Cameron, others present included:

Major General L. V. General Sir M. S. Lovell, General Sir Thomas Colquhoun, General Sir Patrick Thomas Colquhoun, General Sir Alexander Weatherhead, and Colonel Lord Kinnaird.

**Service dinners**

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars

The annual dinner of the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars was held last night at the Hyde Park Hotel.

Major-General J. M. Strawn, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

**The King's Royal Hussars**

The annual officers' dinner of the 15th/19th The King's Royal Cavalry and Guards Club, Brigadier J. R. D. Sharp, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

**Society of Merchant Venturers**

The following have been elected officers of the Society of Merchant Venturers:

Mr Christopher Wilson, Thomas Master; Mr D. C. Tudway Quilter, Senior Warden; Sir John Wills, Junior Warden; Mr J. D. P. Stirling, First Assistant.

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9. I am a non-resident in Australia

10. I am a non-resident in New Zealand

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## THE ARTS

## Cinema

## Bold display of British vitality and variety

**London Film Festival**  
National Film Theatre  
(from November 17)

**Monkey Grip (18)**  
Cinecento, Panton Street

**Bloody Kids (15)**  
ICA Cinema

The London Film Festival is upon us again, in its twenty-seventh edition. This year the bag is as mixed as ever, and very much larger. With 160 titles, mostly made in a 12-month period, common sense and the law of averages would indicate that many are better avoided; but the advance information in the festival brochure rarely gives the game away. Practically all the films are described in such superlatives ("stunning", "devastating", "tough, unswerving and imbued with a recognizable truth", "stunning minimalist images") that a hint of qualification ("that's the *savoir* visual style seems sometimes over-determined") is positively damning. In this context the description of a film as "a fascinating experiment which audiences will judge differently depending on expectations and taste" is an ominous caveat. It is hard, too, to know what to make of "Marguerite Duras without the *longueurs*".

Apart from learning the art of reading between the lines, intending patrons can only follow their instincts and such pointers as we critics can give them (though the festival brochure is at pains to warn the reader against believing "naïve" and "surprised" British critics). If the matter of selection is difficult, though, Londoners should not be too put off by the legendary difficulty of getting seats for the event. As usual this only applies to a handful of the more obviously popular titles. At midweek only two dozen of the shows were sold out, and a number of these were films like Henry Jaglom's eccentric comedy *Can She Bake a Cherry Pie?* the Hitchcock revivals *Rear Window* and *Vertigo*, John Landis' *Trading Places*, Tony Palmer's *Wagner* and Jean-Luc Godard's *Prénom Carmen*, all of which (just because their audience potential is apparent) will open in London soon.

The sell-outs tend to be on the strength of names (Gianni Amico's *Io*



Sinister and innocent: Richard Thomas as the boy in search of attention in *Bloody Kids*

*con te non ci sto più*, not in itself very successful, has probably sold its tickets because Bertolucci's name is attached to it as producer) and particularly lurid brochure publicity. It was predictable that a "wonderfully camp and extremely bizarre musical . . . a sexually exotic mix of transvestites, transsexuals, gays and other variants" (*Rosa von Praunheim's City of Lost Souls*) or "a celebration of the male form, of nudity, of ganness" (*Eric de Kuyper's Casta Diva*) could not fail to find their public.

It is gratifying though, that new British films like Richard Eyre's comedy *Loose Connections*, from a screenplay by Maggie Brooks, and Gavin Millar's *The Weather in the Streets*, adapted from Rosamund Lehmann, have also attracted sell-out audiences. This year's festival does above all demonstrate the vitality, variety and general high morale of British film-making since the new relationship with television consolidated by Channel 4. Like *The Weather in the Streets*, Giles Foster's *The Aerodrome* and Desmond Davis's *The Country Girls* are both literary adaptations (respectively from Rex Warner and Edna O'Brien, who also wrote the screenplay); but a notable

feature of the new British feature films is reliance on original screenplays: Nick Darke's for *Giles Foster's Farmers Arms*, Ian McEwan's for Derek Banham's *Last Day of Summer*, David Hare's for Stephen Frears's *Saligon - Year of the Cat*. Undoubtedly one of the most intriguing prospects of the festival however is John Schlesinger's *An Englishman Abroad*, with a script by Alan Bennett, based on Coral Browne's recollections of meeting Guy Burgess during an exchange theatrical tour in Moscow. Miss Browne plays herself; Alan Bennett is Burgess.

Mike Leigh's *Meantime*, developed through his usual improvisational techniques, is his blackest comedy so far. It is the portrait of an awful East End family — father and both sons unemployed and mother the slave of bingo and the washing machine — whose council flat is a rat-trap where they have nothing to do but nag and gnaw one another.

The festival also provides evidence of the rise of a genuine Irish cinema; and Donald Taylor Black's *At the Picture Palace - Liam O'Leary* is an endearing portrait of a notable man who has battled for half a century for a national tradition in films.

European cinema has not been strong this year either in East or West. A quick short-list of festival programmes still available would include Raul Ruiz's ancient mariner's tale, *Les Trois Couronnes du malice*; Claude Goretta's exposé of the calm propriety of a Swiss village, *The Death of Mario Ricci*; Pál Sándor's equivocal panorama of Hungary, 1956, *Daniel Takes a Train*; and (if your taste runs that way) Alexander Kluge's philosophical essay *The Power of the Emotions*.

I will be commenting later on other aspects of the festival, including this year's revivals of silent films with new orchestral accompaniments, *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind*, presented as a special tribute to Lillian Gish, who will be present.

One quirk of the festival is to rule any film under 50 minutes a short, and relegated it to a footnote in the brochure. Hence a notable small treasure and the auspicious debut of a British director could easily be overlooked, since Ian Sellar's *Over Germany* runs only 47 minutes. Sellar started as an assistant to Bill Douglas, and there is a sympathy of style that suggests (taking into account Bill Forsyth too) that there may be a

particular Scottish sensibility. Like Douglas and Forsyth, Sellar works in small, seemingly fragmented, impressions, silences, looks ordinary sounds, which are nevertheless connected with poetic compression.

The film is an autobiographical recollection of the film-maker's first trip to Germany as a child, foregrounded only by war comics about the Nazis, to visit his Jewish grandmother. The old lady is kind but secretive; the stolid little boy is bewildered, uncomprehending, caught up in his own daydreams; the encounter is brief and hardly consequential. Yet afterwards we are left with a haunting sense of the tragic decade in Germany that ended before the child was born.

Of this week's new releases, *Monkey Grip* is a lively feature debut for the Australian director Ken Cameron. As adapted from her own novel by Helen Garner, it is a vivid slice of Melbourne life, the erotic and sentimental adventures of a young woman on the fringes of a small-time Bohemia of pop artists, amateur actors and newspaper people. Nora (Noni Hazlehurst), the painter Alfred Jones, Thomas' wife Caitlin and daughter Aerony, and the writers Nicolette Desvar (his sister-in-law) and Dan Davin.

Arguing over Thomas, debating whether he earned his plot in Poets' Corner, is almost an industry. I do not think this programme added to our knowledge but it did emphasize the artistry of the debate, to which the rolling resonance of the poet reading his own verse added a sad counterpoint.

## Television

## Sad counterpoints

The portrait of Dylan Thomas in *I Sing to You Strangers*, on BBC2 last night, was meant to give us a picture of the poet on the thirtieth anniversary of his death the programme marked — other than that of an inspired and irresponsible drunkard. The producer, John Ormond, a fellow townsman of Thomas, obviously thought this view inaccurate and in his support brought forth René Cutforth, the composer Daniel Jones and Elisabeth Lutyens, the painter Alfred Jones, Thomas' wife Caitlin and daughter Aerony, and the writers Nicolette Desvar (his sister-in-law) and Dan Davin.

Altogether, I did not think they made it. Caitlin, who appears in one of tonight's two programmes on Thomas, testified to their violent rows and rapturous reconciliations. Miss Lutyens confirmed these but said it was "bloody hell", adding that she did not mind conjugal rows but advised all to "keep away from conjugal reconciliations". Caitlin said

Dennis Hackett

**Caroline Moorehead**  
meets Nicholas Gage,  
who achieves a life's  
ambition in his new  
book, *Eleni*

A weapon  
for the  
emotions

On August 28, 1948, a group of Greek Communist guerrillas led 13 prisoners into the mountains just below the Albanian border. One of the five from the village of Lia was Eleni Gatzoyiannis, the "Americana", wife of a Greek settled in America, and mother of five children. She had been tortured. The prisoners were shot, and their bodies tossed into a ravine and covered with rocks. Eleni was 41.

The nine-year-old boy, her only son, waiting for her from behind the safety of the nationalist lines, is now a middle-aged man, a short, self-contained figure with brown hair, a square face and a neat blue blazer, who lives in America. He writes under the name of Nicholas Gage and is the author of *Eleni* (Collins, £9.95), a 470-page account of his mother's trial and the circumstances that led to her death. Anthony Howard reviewed it on last week's Books page and it is compulsive reading.

It took him six years to write, but it is in fact a life's work. "Everything I am and believe in is there", he explains. "It is the book I became a writer to write. When I was 13 I won first prize for an essay about Greece. I knew then I could write and that my future was solved. I had some kind of weapon to defend myself with my emotions. To write this book became my professional and personal life's goal."

The success of *Eleni* in America has been spectacular. Book of the Month Club choice, now in its fourth reprinting, and film rights sold for \$850,000. (The day an extract appeared in the *New York Times* Gage received 70 film offers.) "I never believed it could have such a popular impact," he says. "I wanted to capture the world of a Greek village, with its mores, forces and rhythms which died in 1950, and to tell enough history to put the reader in the picture. But it's still about events that took place 35 years ago in a part of the world I thought no Westerner could identify with. To understand its success I tried to reduce the

book to what it's essentially about: it's a love story between a parent and a child. Perhaps it touched people because we have all been children or parents."

The father of Gatzoyiannis children eventually joined in America was Christos, a 59-year-old fruit merchant separated from his family by war for over nine years. He had never seen his only son. "There wasn't much money," says Gage. "My sisters went to work. I won scholarships to college and then to Columbia graduate school. America was a revelation to me. I loved the way you were judged on your work. It makes you feel free. People have asked me if I feel guilty about my mother. I feel responsible. I felt I had to do something with my life that was worthwhile because someone had paid for it with their own."

After Columbia, Gage joined the Associated Press, then the *Wall Street Journal*, before becoming an investigative reporter for the *New York Times*, making his name with articles on the Mafia and organized crime, developing the skills that he knew he would later use for his book. Once or twice he tried to start work on *Eleni*, but each time he retreated from the subject, unable to face what had happened to his mother. Instead, he wrote two novels, one a dynastic saga about Greek shipowners, the other about organized crime.

The opportunity to take on *Eleni* came in 1977 when the *New York Times* sent him to Athens. Even so, covering much of Eastern Europe left him too little time for the exhausting research he knew he needed to do before he could begin to write, and in 1980 he left the paper to embark on 400 extensive interviews, following his witnesses to the East European countries, where many had settled, or to the remotest corners of Greece. Some of their stories ran to 70 pages. It was here my training as a reporter came in. I had learnt not to trust my own impressions or those of a single witness but to keep asking until the testimonies began to fit."

for Richard/Which'd be suitable".

As for anachronisms, the appearance of French onion sellers and flamenco dancers to mark Blondel's place on the map take you back too insistently to Joseph, but they still exert great charm in Peter James's production.

This is a singing show, with far greater general vocal competence than musicals normally command. Stephen Oliver is not exactly the dominant partner, but his voice takes off from the Lloyd Webber manner and elaborates it into full-scale operatic diversity. Beginning with an unaccompanied quartet of close-harmony monks, it proceeds with divided duets, solos and full chorus, and characterization through music — especially for Richard, who brings out Mr Oliver's most majestic vein.

He can also write superb romantic tunes, such as the final duet for Paul Nicholas's husky Blondel and the reunited Fiona.

Tim Goodchild's stage is alive with lightweight mobile properties that flood the Dark Ages with sunlight. And, among the smaller parts, look out for David Burt as the villainous virile John and Chris Langham as the spindly assassin.

In response to my notice of *The Grass Widow*, Snoo Wilson justly takes me to task for listing astrology among the play's themes. My apologies.

Irving Wardle



Paul Nicholas: husky

It is not much of a plot, and Blondel is not much of a hero.

To start with, you are left uncertain of whether the unsung minstrel is supposed to be any good or not his girl, Fiona (Sharon Lee Hill), thinks he ought to get a steady job. Unlike

Joseph, Blondel meets with no great triumphs or calamities.

The one thing that can be claimed for the story is that it never mentions charity belts.

Where Mr Rice does score

is in the lyrics which, as in *Joseph*, couple a charming narrative flow with an amazing line in ingenious rhymes. John, for instance, has a number of songs recommending himself as a subject for song, as "There is no rhyme

of low degree wandering through foreign parts and giving a helping hand to the great.

Blondel, should you have

mistaken him for the man who fried eggs halfway across Niagara Falls, was a twelfth-century English minstrel about whom little was known until Mr Rice came along. It now appears that he attempted a Eurovision hit in praise of Richard I, and set off in pursuit of the crusading monarch when things became too hot at home under the beasty John; and, failing to make it to the Middle East, had the satisfaction of rescuing Richard from imprisonment by the Duke of Austria (another nasty piece of work). For those services Richard appoints him royal composer and sets him up in his own night club along with his faithful group, the Blondettes.

As Andrew Lloyd Webber failed to acquire the building, it is ironical that it should reopen with the equivalent of a Ricca Lloyd Webber musical. With all respect to Stephen Oliver, who is Mr Rice's new composer, Blondel comes over as a sequel to *Joseph* and the *Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*: another anachronistic comedy, featuring a footloose young hero of low degree wandering through foreign parts and giving a helping hand to the great.

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## Industrial notebook

## Jobs indictment that shames our leaders

A startling but little publicized document has landed on the circular conference table on the 15th floor of the Millbank Tower, the London meeting place of the National Economic Development Council. It is a document that should shame the leaders of this land into some more real, less political and more properly productive action over jobs.

The paper, presented to Nelly by Mr David Young, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, proves to be an indictment of the way that Britain is training, or failing to train, people for a future that will increasingly demand new skills.

The fact is that despite the millions being poured into training schemes by private industry and the state, we are in danger of permanently becoming a nation of frustrated unemployed, controlled by a handful of elite and wealthy technocrats.

An absurd generalization? Mr Young's view is: "Our education and training arrangements are neither well prepared, nor well organized, nor well equipped."

He adds: "We have a system which is not producing enough of the skills we need in the form we need them - a system which is not customer-oriented nor as productive as it might be, and where the emphasis is still on yesterday's requirements rather than tomorrow's." In particular, there is not sufficient realization or exploitation of the dramatic potential of the new technologies for the educational and training processes themselves."

The latest bit of State tinkering with the jobs market, the Youth Training Scheme, has attracted an impressive 230,000 youngsters this year, and while this is well below the total expected by the originators, Mr Young said recently he was confident of finding every unemployed 16-year-old a job by Christmas.

Industry certainly has committed itself in a big way to the YTS - more than the Government expected - but there must be serious doubts as to whether the scheme really marks the beginning of a new dawn in preparing people for work, or whether it is a cynical and temporary means of reducing unemployment.

And to some extent a more important question is whether hard-pressed industry will be prepared to give the YTS recruits a permanent job when their time is up and the

Edward Townsend

## APPOINTMENTS

## Changes at Lilly Inds

Lilly Industries: Mr Richard Bailey has been reappointed managing director. Mr Sidney Taurel becomes vice-president of Europe. Mr T S Clifford has been made director of pharmaceutical marketing for the United Kingdom. Mr A Clark becomes general manager of Eli Lilly Italia and Dr John Wold has become managing director for Lilly Research Centre. Gorsbach Underwriting Agencies: Mr Gordon T Alston has been made director. Arthur Lee Group of Companies: Mr James Henderson has become managing director of Lee Bright Bars. He will remain managing director of Lee Steel Strip.

## Martonair

## Extracts from the Review by the Chairman, Mr Ronald Cartwright:

\* There has been no real improvement in the level of world wide demand and, although there has been a small increase in turnover, results are very similar to those in the previous year. Profit before taxation was £4.27 million as compared with £4.15 million and, after a somewhat lower tax charge, the balance available for appropriation is £2.50 million. A final dividend of 6.55p per share is proposed making a total of 8.5p per share for the year, an increase of approximately 6%.

\* Turnover increased from £39.4 million to £41.7 million of which 71% was in respect of direct exports from the U.K. and sales by overseas subsidiaries. Although trading conditions in the U.K. remained difficult, turnover was increased from £10.4 million to £11.8 million, which would appear to indicate a further increase in market share. In most of our overseas markets, pressure on margins has continued and, although European exchange rates were generally more favourable in the early part of the year, the advantages were somewhat less in the second half.

\* In recent months, a number of new products have been added to our range which, we anticipate, will enable us to further improve our market share. Further successful developments have been made in the application of electronics and simple robotics and considerable interest is being shown in our new range of modular robotic units.

\* There are signs of increased activity in some of our more important markets and we expect this to be reflected in our turnover in the second half of the financial year. We remain very confident of the continuing growth potential of the Group.

## MARTONAIR INTERNATIONAL p.l.c.

Manufacturers of pneumatic control equipment

Bailey Morris, in Washington, explains an important shift in Reagan's overseas strategy

## US ready to drop big stick to woo its trade critics

The Reagan Administration now intends to seek closer consultations with its largest trading partners on a wide range of economic and trade issues in an attempt to defuse increasingly hostile criticism from its closest allies.

This was the message of Mr Malcolm Baldridge, the US Secretary of Commerce, who indicated in an interview with *The Times* that the Administration will try to resolve disputes over the next year by carrying a soft stick rather than carrying a big stick.

Mr Baldridge said that President Reagan's trip to Asia this week during which he will seek a compromise solution to the yen-dollar imbalance, was a good indication of the new willingness to consult on problems rather than issue ultimatums.

In what could be called the maturing of the Reagan Adminis-

**'We've lowered the level of rhetoric. No one wants a trade war'**

stration, Mr Baldridge said there was now a realization among cabinet officials that the harsh rhetoric which characterized some earlier negotiations, particularly in the East-West trade area, had been counterproductive.

It will be in this spirit that the Administration approaches its important talks in Brussels on December 9 with officials of the European Community.

White House officials said they regarded the talks as an important step in solidifying US-European relations. This was the reason for the President's decision to send for the

Minister, Mr Baldridge said

that the Administration was willing to take a new look at proposals for a conference similar to that at Bretton Woods to reform the international monetary system. This subject could be central to the latest meeting of the group of 10 industrial nations in Paris next week.

Although the US Adminis-

tration remained firm in its opposition to a policy of intervention to correct wild fluctuations in the dollar, Mr Baldridge said there was a strong desire for closer cooperation on financial matters including



Baldridge bringing new spirit of rapprochement to talks in Brussels

coordination of exchange rate policies.

Over the past year, European officials have made clear that economic recovery in Europe is tied to a strong recovery in the United States and a stable, less inflated, dollar.

Until recently, however, the Administration has insisted there was little it could do about the overvalued dollar which it said remained high because investors viewed the US as a "safe harbour" when there was

a shift in policy should not be regarded as a giant step but rather a small step" which is an important sign that the United States is more willing to listen to the rest of the industrialized world, Mr Baldridge said.

Even a small step towards more cooperation will be welcomed in European capitals where officials have often criticized the high-handed be-

haviour of some Reagan Administration officials who have attempted to dictate policy to their counterparts.

Often, it was the tone of the US talk as much as the substance which irritated Europeans. One senior European diplomat said: "We were not consulted on the final carbon steel decision until the eleventh hour and the Soviet gas pipeline sanctions were a *fait accompli*."

During the trade negotiations in Geneva last November, the United States tried to apply particularly heavy pressure which backfired. Why the change in tone?

It has probably occurred as a result of both criticism from abroad and the growing internal power of administration moderates such as Mr Shultz and Mr Baldridge, both of whom serve on the important cabinet economic and trade councils.

Mr Baldridge has recently solidified his position as the Administration's top spokesman on industry and trade matters by winning a bureaucratic struggle with Mr Brock.

He, for one is now prepared to admit that some administration officials had not realized how closely linked the US economy was to the rest of the world.

But the linkage theory has gradually sunk in and US officials are now concerned that trade channels remain open and economic gains spread to the rest of the world.

This may not be a giant step forward, but it is an important shift in policy nonetheless.

This was the reason for their strong commitment to increased resources for the International Monetary Fund and to closer cooperation among governments.

Over the next year and a half when the momentum of recovery must be maintained, exports will be increasingly important to all nations, including the United States, which is also looking abroad for growth.

During the past year, for example, the combination of the over-valued dollar and the debt crisis have hit US exports so hard that the trade deficit is now projected at a record \$70 billion this year.

Mexico cut imports from the United States by 50 per cent or \$9 billion; Brazil by between 30 per cent and 40 per cent; and Romania cut imports from all sources by 50 per cent.

**'The US tried to apply heavy pressure which backfired'**

The United States calculated that it lost 25,000 jobs for every \$1 billion of lost exports. Thus as a result of the Mexican cutback alone an estimated 200,000 workers were laid off, Mr Baldridge said.

These severe restraints cannot be allowed to continue if the world is to recover fully, he said, and he is determined to open communications at the highest levels to resolve the problems.

This may not be a giant step forward, but it is an important shift in policy nonetheless.

# FIRST NINE MONTHS - 1983

# Ultramar

## MEETING THE CHALLENGES

### Review of Ultramar Group Financial Results and Operations

#### Summary of Financial Results

	First Nine Months 1983 £ million	First Nine Months 1982 £ million
Turnover	1,332.5	1,033.8
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	113.2	131.8
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	74.8	73.5
Cash flow from operations	96.2	110.9
Capital expenditures	236.9	138.0

#### Extracts from the Chairman's Statement:

The third quarter results were an improvement over the second quarter. The main profit centres continue to be our oil and gas producing operations in Indonesia, the North Sea and Western Canada. Marketing operations in the Western United States and the U.K. also had a profitable third quarter, but our large refining and marketing interests in Eastern Canada continue to be disappointing.

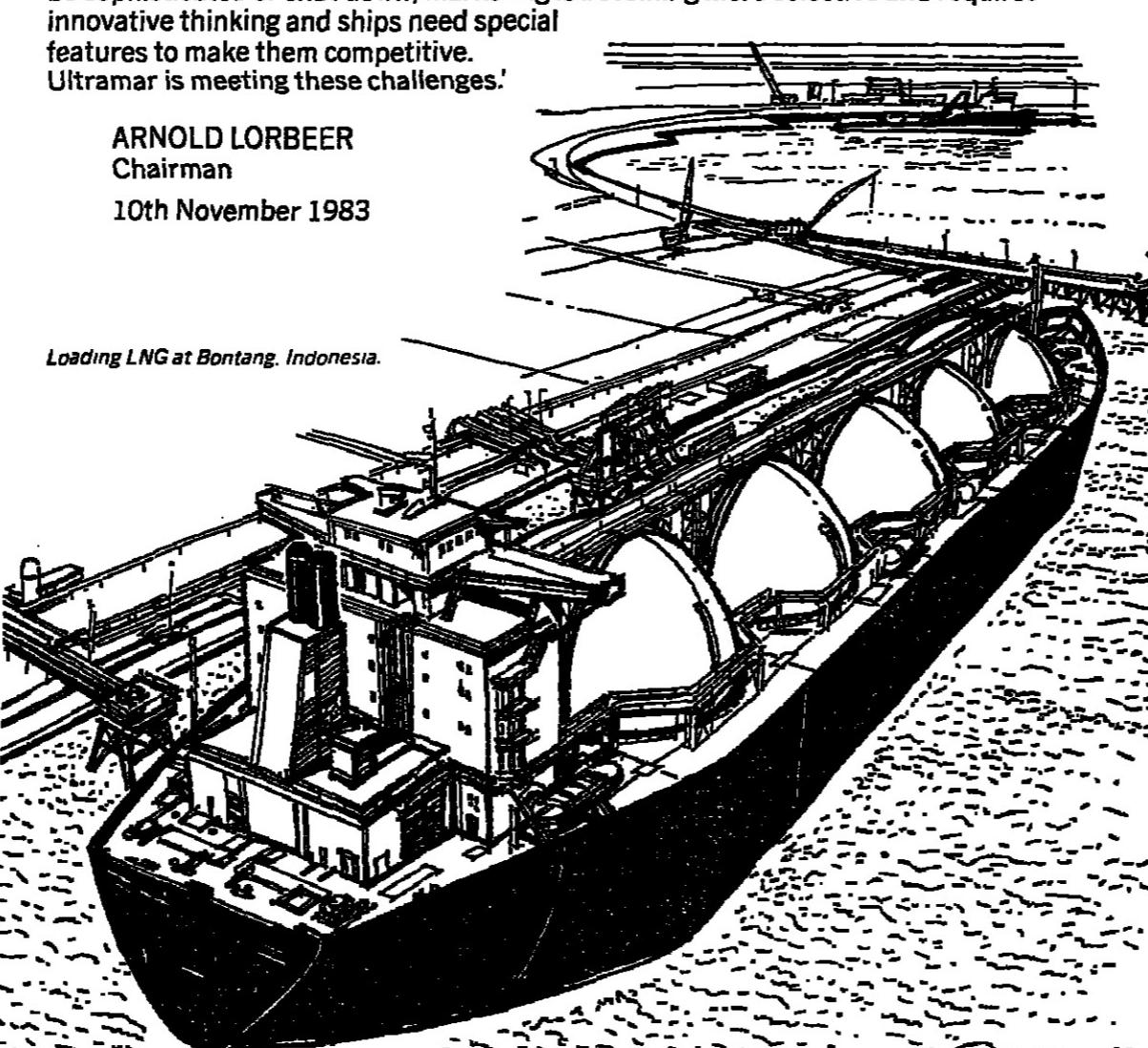
The main projects in our two year expansion and modernisation programme have now been completed and should begin to have an impact on profits in the fourth quarter. The two new LNG trains in Indonesia and the catalytic cracking unit at the Quebec Refinery are on stream and have operated above design capacities. The LNG train damaged in an accident earlier this year has been repaired and is operating. The North Sea Maurene Field is on production and expected to reach its full capacity early next year.

We have been informed that, subject to the requisite consents, we were successful in purchasing four units totalling one per cent of the Forties Field for a total consideration of £30 million.

The oil industry is gradually adjusting to the changed world, but there are still excess production, refining, marketing and transportation facilities. Economics dictate caution in the commercial development of new oil and gas discoveries: refineries have to be sophisticated or shut down; marketing is becoming more selective and requires innovative thinking and ships need special features to make them competitive. Ultramar is meeting these challenges.

ARNOLD LORBEER  
Chairman  
10th November 1983

Loading LNG at Bontang, Indonesia.



Consolidated Profit and Loss Account	First Nine Months 1983 £ million	First Nine Months 1982 £ million	Year 1982 £ million
Turnover	£1,332.5	£1,033.8	£1,513.3
Cost of Sales	1,155.9	843.8	1,246.1
Gross profit	176.6	190.0	267.2
Distribution costs and administrative expenses	79.4	63.7	93.4
	97.2	126.3	173.8
Other operating income	26.2	24.8	32.7
	123.4	151.1	206.5
Interest payable	10.2	19.3	23.0
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	113.2	131.8	183.5
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	38.4	58.3	79.4
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	74.8	73.5	104.1
Ordinary Shares dividends 1983-Interim 6p per share	8.1	5.9	5.9
1982-Final 9½p per share	-	-	10.3
Advance Corporation Tax written off	4.8	2.6	3.0
	12.9	8.5	19.2
Earnings retained for the period	561.9	65.0	£84.9
Earnings per share	57.3p	65.0p	91.9p
Principal translation and conversion exchange rates used by the Group are			
30th September 1983 30th September 1982 31st December 1982			
£1 equals US\$ 1.50 1.70 1.62			
£1 equals Can\$ 1.84 2.09 1.99			
Operating Results	First Nine Months 1983	First Nine Months 1982	
Sales of oil (barrels per day)	209,600	175,300	
Oil refined (barrels per day)	81,800	87,800	
Oil produced (barrels per day)	9,200	9,200	
Gas produced (thousands of cubic feet per day)	151,900	173,700	
Gross wells drilled	104	111	
Oil and gas wells completed (in which the Group has varying interests)	71	64	



## Ultramar

Morgan House, 1 Angel Court  
London EC2R 7AU

For a copy of the full Review of Group Financial Results and Operations for the Nine Months to 30th September 1983 please complete and return the coupon to the Company Secretary at the above address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# Central & Sheerwood slips into red and sells offshoot

By Jeremy Warner

Central & Sherwood has sold its heating appliances offshoot, Trianco-Kefyre to a management consortium for £4.2m.

The consideration represents well over a half the engineering, printing and publishing group's current stock market value.

The sale coincides with news that the group slipped back into the red in the first half of this year.

Pretax losses were £415,000 on sales of £40m against profits of £278,000 on sales of £55m last time.

The fall in sales and slide into losses is partly attributable to

Central & Sherwood  
Half-year to 30.6.83.  
Pretax loss £415,000 (profit  
£278,000).  
Turnover £40m (£55m).  
Net interim dividend none (same).  
Share price 11.5p unchanged.

the sale of some subsidiaries, but more particularly there has been poor demand for the company's capital goods in world markets and for some products in the company's distribution division.

It would be imprudent to expect any significant improvement in trading during the second half of the year, the company said yesterday. Only

five months ago, the chairman said he was confident of the measures taken and viewed prospects for 1983 with cautious optimism.

The loss for the first half was struck after group administration costs less income of £242,000 against £208,000 last year, yesterday reported a sharp fall in retained profits.

The company said the delay occurred because its accountants Stay Hayward failed to arrive at a provision for tax in time.

The tax charge is now shown at £204,000 against nothing last year. Intervision has also charged extraordinary debts of £217,000 below the line, leaving retained profits of £118,000 against £659,000 last time. No complaint against that part of the judgment in the second appeal had been advanced in the House.

The confirmation and his explanation that he had said what he did to the journalist and the police officer in order to escape harassment of himself and his family by members of the underworld (with whom "grass" were undoubtedly unpopular) were accepted by the Court of Appeal as being true. No complaint against that part of the judgment in the second appeal had been advanced in the House.

The court also accepted his explanation of the reasons for the reference in the secretary of state's letter referring to the case?

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Alan John Chard from the ruling of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Peter Pain and Mr Justice Smith-Sandiford) that on the reference the court had to confine itself to grounds set out in the Home Secretary's letter as his reasons for making the reference. The court's refusal to accept the appeal was accepted to argue that the conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory on grounds other than fresh evidence.

Section 17(1) provides: "Where a person has been convicted on indictment... the secretary of state may... (a) refer the whole case to the Court of Appeal and the case shall then be treated for all purposes as an appeal to the court by the consolidating 1958 Act."

The group reports a dramatic improvement since May in its small business of putting video libraries into garages, tobacconists and off-licences.

Intervision says it is also looking at related areas for investment in the overall software communications business. Distribution of software for personal computers and related equipment is a natural adjunct for the company's business, it says.

## Intervision profits show a sharp fall

By Philip Robinson

Intervision Video (Holdings), which delayed its figures a week ago, yesterday reported a sharp fall in retained profits.

The company said the delay occurred because its accountants Stay Hayward failed to arrive at a provision for tax in time.

The tax charge is now shown at £204,000 against nothing last year. Intervision has also charged extraordinary debts of £217,000 below the line, leaving retained profits of £118,000 against £659,000 last time. No complaint against that part of the judgment in the second appeal had been advanced in the House.

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## Arenson losses continue

By Wayne Lintott

**Arenson Group**  
Year to 31.7.83  
Pretax loss £706,000 (loss  
£952,000)  
Stated loss per share 7.52p  
(10.47p)  
Turnover £15.7m (16.1m)  
No dividend (same)  
Share price 23p Yield nil

This is the third year running that furniture-makers Arenson has had tales-of-woe to accompany the annual figures showing hefty losses.

The company had hoped the troubles were over, but it again suffered heavy losses.

The American distribution subsidiary and a British manufacturing division making rigid, low-price furniture for domestic sales suffered badly. Both divisions have now been sold and had not been for those unexpected developments the company claims that it would have shown a profit for the year.

The closures caused heavy run-down and redundancy costs. Arenson also shows substantial book losses on asset sales.

A statement said that progress has been made in reducing stocks and borrowings during the year and "further progress on both these fronts is anticipated during the current period."

Swissair may be interested in up to 20 of the 150-seat Airbus A320's, the vice-president, Mr Heinz Galli said in Zurich yesterday.

But he said the requirement would not arise until the 1990's, and would, therefore, not be in time for the case now being made by British Aerospace and other Airbus partners for government funding to get the new aircraft off the ground.

## WALL STREET

Nov '83	Nov '82	Nov '83	Nov '82	Nov '83	Nov '82
AMP Inc	175	Fed Penn Corp	50	Raytheon	470
AMX	225	Ford	35	RCA Corp	340
AMT-Clegg	205	GTE Corp	25	Reed & Barton	250
Allied Signal	205	Gen Dynamics	25	Reynolds Metal	260
Alta Chalumeau	125	Globe Funds	25	Royal Dutch	245
Alta Inc	21	Honeywell	25	SAC	250
Almax Inc	21	IBM Corp	25	St Regis Paper	250
Amoco	205	Imperial Oil	25	SCA	250
Am Brand	205	Interstate	25	Seagram	275
Am Cyclo Power	205	J.C. Penney	25	Sherrill Oil	250
Am Home	205	Kodak	25	Sunbeam Corp	250
Am Nat Res	205	LTV Corp	25	Sunbeam Rec	250
Am Telephone	205	Mobil Oil	25	Telstar	250
Amwest	205	National Gypsum	25	Textron	100
Amex Int'l	205	Neiman Marcus	25	TWA	100
Atlantic Richfield	205	Northrop	25	US Air Lines	250
AVCO Products	205	Orbit Corp	25	US Foods Corp	250
Banbury Textiles	205	Parke-Davis	25	VFW Corp	250
Bank of America	205	Patterson	25	Wharf Corp	250
Barclays Peugeot	205	Petroleum	25	Worrell	250
Bathurst Glass	205	Philco	25	Worrell	250
Boeing	205	Pitney Bowes	25	Worrell	250
Borden	205	Plastics	25	Worrell	250
Brown & Root	205	Polymer	25	Worrell	250
Campbell Soup	205	Prudential	25	Worrell	250
Caterpillar	205	Quaker Oats	25	Worrell	250
Central Corp	205	Radiant	25	Worrell	250
Centocor Corp	205	Rancho	25	Worrell	250
Control Data	205	Raymond	25	Worrell	250
CPC Int'l Glass	205	Reed & Barton	25	Worrell	250
Crane Int'l	205	Reynolds	25	Worrell	250
Crown Cos	205	Rheem	25	Worrell	250
Dresser Ind	205	Rhone-Poulenc	25	Worrell	250
Dow Chemical	205	Rohm & Haas	25	Worrell	250
Dow Food	205	Rubbermaid	25	Worrell	250
Dow Fertil	205	Ryan	25	Worrell	250
Du Pont	205	Sabena	25	Worrell	250
Du Pont	205	Safeway	25	Worrell	250
Eaton Corp	205	Saks	25	Worrell	250
El Paso Nat Gas	205	Salomon Brothers	25	Worrell	250
Ernst P. D.	205	Sampson Morris	25	Worrell	250
Exxon Corp	205	Phillips Petrol	25	Worrell	250
Farmers Corp	205	PPG Inc	25	Worrell	250
FMC Corp	205	Puritan	25	Worrell	250
FMC Intrn Busp	210	Quaker Hiram	25	Worrell	250
FMC Intrn Busp	210	WCT	25	Worrell	250

\*Ex div. & adj'd. & Ex distribution. # Mid = Market closed. \* New issue. # Stock split.

# Traded. / Unquoted.

# CRAFTSMANSHIP

THE LONGINES  
STYLE

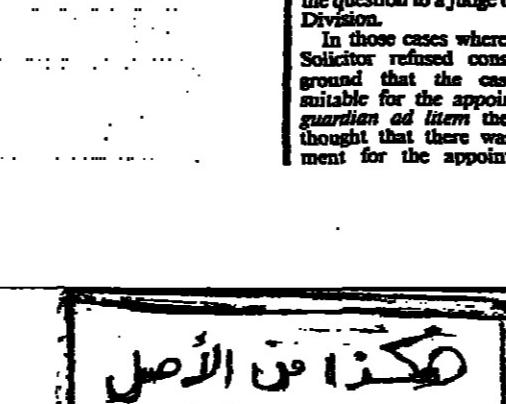


Craftsmanship - in Swiss watches it is known as the Longines Style. Longines watchmakers have practised it since 1832. Two of their recent masterpieces are these goldplated quartz watches. His. £298.50 (Mod. 12852). Hers. £259.50 (Mod. 12781). Or in 9 ct. gold at £625 (Mod. 23316) and £445 (Mod. 14203) respectively. Longines watches from £95.

Printed in U.K. 1983  
Museum of Old Musical Instruments, Geneva.

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83 Farringdon Rd.,  
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LONGINES  
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## Law Report November 11 1983 House of Lords

### Home Secretary's reference

Regina v Chard

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman.

[Speeches delivered November 10]

The words of section 17(1)(a) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 -

which empowers the Home Secre-

tary to refer to the Court of Appeal

the case of a person convicted on

indictment - were free from

ambiguity and that person was to be

tried for all purposes if as he had

been convicted of an offence

under section 17(1)(a) of the

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TENNIS: VIOLATIONS OF CLICHE ON "A SPORTSMAN AND A GENTLEMAN"

# A fine lesson for Connors

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Jimmy Connors, who is competing in the Benson and Hedges Championships at Wembley for the third time and has yet to be beaten, defeated Hank Pfister 6-4, 6-1 yesterday but was fined a total of £648.30 on two separate but related counts: audible and visual obscenities. For the United States champion, the pounds may be almost as irrelevant as the points. But his violations of that old cliché "a sportsman and a gentleman" have so far escaped notice.

All was conducted sharply with a little incisiveness that occurred when Tomas Smid, 3-6 and 3-5 down to Andres Gomez, was about to serve to stay in the match. Smid had a blister on a foot, had problems with his shoes, and wanted to change them (that is, the shoes). The resident grand prix supervisor — these are the experts on interpreting the rules — said Smid was not permitted to exceed the 30-second interval.

Gomez instantly indicated that if Smid's shoes were coming apart he should be allowed to change them ("The guy could kill himself"). So Smid changed his shoes. Both Gomez and the supervisor were to be congratulated. There are times

— and this was one of them — when the spirit of the rule should override the small print.

The afternoon's proceedings were punctuated by one of those heavily portentous gatherings at which the administrative staff of men's professional tennis tell us what they have been up to. This one was to announce another outbreak of peace between World Championships Tennis, the tour-based promoters, and the council who govern the grand prix circuit.

Formed in 1967, WCT ran their own show until 1978, when they began an uneasy four-year stint as part of the grand prix series. Last year they re-assessed their independence and ten months ago they began legal proceedings to end their alliance, in attempt to monopolise men's professional tennis and, in the process, were not playing fair. Now, WCT have dropped the law suit and have agreed that, as from 1985, they will toe the grand prix line for five years.

The men's Association of Tennis Professionals, the players' "union," also have independent leanings but for the time being cannot afford to indulge them. So the agreement is to wait, the first year 1983 to 1987 inclusive they would work with the grand prix council — thus throwing their weight behind the grand prix rather than maintaining a neutral role between the grand prix and WCT circuits. This is illogical, because competition between different circuits is in the players' interests and, in any case, a labour union should be independent.

It is questionable whether the ATP can — or should — continue to work in harness with a council on which

the International Tennis Federation are represented in equal strength.

The ITF, after all, are primarily concerned with tennis as a whole, which is 99 per cent amateur and involves both sexes. The best that can be said about the present experimental team-work between the ATP, the ITF and WCT is that a credible governing body for men's professional tennis could eventually emerge from it.

For so long a time the day's tennis was not a great deal more interesting than the political sidebar. Steve Denton has a 6-3, 6-0 win over a Dutch qualifier, Michel Schapers. Denton is the kind of man who keeps popping up in western movies. He is large and menacing, moves slowly when there is no need to move fast, but exudes awful possibilities. When Denton's first service lands in court, that tends to be the end of the rally. For most players the service is the beginning of a rally but when Denton is serving he likes to regard it as the end.

In the first set Denton lost only two points (both double-faults) in five service games for the match. Schapers was suffering from shell-shock. The Dutchman has won three matches in the qualifying competition. Had beaten the seeded players in the first round, and had already won £2,755 which he went on court yesterday. He had reached the end of the road.

There is 6 feet 5½ inches of Schapers and much of it is slightly folded as if in imminent danger of collapse. Yesterday he had break points against him in every service game but, conversely, only twice did he have the chance to break Denton's. When Denton served well, as he did yesterday, only players of the highest class can resist him.

Gomez is a big left-hander who hits so hard and so deep that the pressure can break almost anyone. That was how it was for most of his match with Smid, whose jerky movements suggest that he must be a pupus. Smid led by a set but then lost five consecutive games. He did his best to move Scalon to outsmart him. But when Gomez is in form, he is too good for players like Smid. Gomez is very much more than a big hitter. He has a sure touch, too, notable on his lob. The last game of the match summed up his versatility. The four points he needed were won by a forehand top-spin lob, an ace, a forehand winner and a backhand volley.

Connors is too quick and flexible for Pfister, who had much more difficulty in reading the patterns of the rallies. Connors was particularly impressive on the forehand and suspects that this may arise from his use of a different kind of racquet. In view of his subsequent crimes there was much irony in a comment Connors made to the effect that he liked playing at Wembley because the atmosphere



Smashing win: Connors powering his way to triumph at Wembley  
(Photograph: Chris Cole)

said him. "People go a little crazy."

Bil Scanlon, who beat John McEnroe in the United States Championships, was beaten 4-6, 6-7, 6-0 by Henrik Sundstrom, one of the most promising young players in the world. Scanlon had a break point in each of the last five consecutive games. He did his best to move

Gomez and try to outsmart him. But when Gomez is in form, he is too good for players like Smid.

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was not so bad, and so deep that the pressure can break almost anyone.

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## Miss Gracie has to grit her teeth

By Lewina Mair

Lorraine Gracie visibly gritted her teeth yesterday to win 6-2, 2-6, 6-0 against Joanne Louis, who had twice previously beaten her in the quarter-finals of the LTA's international satellite event at Thundersley Tennis Centre, Ipswich.

This morning Miss Gracie, aged 19, must tackle the impressive all-court game of the No 1 seed, Judith Wartinga, of the Netherlands; in the other semi-final, Suzie Mair of Scotland, meets Kathleen Shummans, of Belgium.

Miss Gracie, who was a runner-up in the British 21 and under championship three seasons ago,

has had wins this summer over Kate Brasher, Sara Gomez and Julie Salmon, the 18-and under grass court champion. She has worked hard on her game and the LTA's Sue Meppin, who has been instrumental in getting them to work with the national satellite event at Thundersley Tennis Centre, Ipswich.

As is often the way, the relief Miss Gracie felt at having taken the first set affected her concentration at the start of the second. She made a handful of mistakes, and in doing prompted a glorious if short-lived burst of winning tennis from the former 16 and under British hard court champion. The third set, however, swung at once in the older

girl's favour. After a tentative first game, Miss Gracie played with real relish.

Miss Mair's 6-4, 7-5 defeat of Carol Fullerton took comfortably over two hours. There were frequent interruptions as Miss Fullerton and the player next door discussed which balls belonged to which court.

Once ranked first in the United States at Under-21 level as a doubles player, Miss Fullerton, a coach at Hilton Head, is playing her first tournament in a year.

RESULTS: Women's Doubles (Wimbledon) 8: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 2: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 3: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 4: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 5: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 6: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 7: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 8: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 9: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 10: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 11: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 12: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 13: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 14: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 15: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 16: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 17: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 18: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 19: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 20: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 21: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 22: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 23: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 24: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 25: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 26: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 27: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 28: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 29: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 30: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 31: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 32: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 33: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 34: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 35: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 36: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 37: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 38: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 39: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 40: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 41: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 42: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 43: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 44: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 45: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 46: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 47: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 48: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 49: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 50: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 51: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 52: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 53: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 54: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 55: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 56: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 57: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 58: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 59: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 60: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 61: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 62: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 63: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 64: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 65: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 66: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 67: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 68: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 69: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 70: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 71: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 72: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 73: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 74: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 75: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 76: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 77: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 78: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 79: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 80: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 81: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 82: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 83: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 84: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 85: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 86: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 87: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 88: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 89: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 90: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 91: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 92: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 93: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 94: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 95: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 96: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 97: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 98: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 99: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 100: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 101: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 102: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 103: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 104: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 105: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 106: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 107: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 108: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 109: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 110: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 111: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 112: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 113: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 114: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 115: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 116: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 117: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 118: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 119: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 120: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 121: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 122: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 123: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 124: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 125: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 126: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 127: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 128: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 129: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 130: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 131: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 132: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 133: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 134: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 135: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 136: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 137: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 138: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 139: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 140: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 141: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 142: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 143: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 144: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 145: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 146: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 147: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 148: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 149: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 150: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 151: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 152: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 153: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 154: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 155: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 156: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 157: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 158: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 159: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 160: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 161: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 162: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 163: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 164: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 165: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 166: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 167: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 168: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 169: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 170: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 171: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 172: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 173: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 174: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 175: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 176: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 177: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 178: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 179: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 180: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 181: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 182: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 183: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 184: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 185: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 186: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 187: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 188: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 189: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 190: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 191: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 192: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 193: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 194: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 195: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 196: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 197: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 198: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 199: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 200: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 201: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 202: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 203: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 204: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 205: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 206: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 207: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 208: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 209: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 210: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 211: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 212: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 213: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 214: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 215: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 216: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 217: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 218: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 219: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 220: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 221: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 222: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 223: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 224: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 225: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 226: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 227: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 228: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 229: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 230: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 231: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 232: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 233: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 234: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 235: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 236: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 237: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 238: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 239: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 240: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 241: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 242: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 243: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 244: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 245: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 246: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 247: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 248: 1 (6-3, 6-2); 249: 1 (6-3, 6-



RUGBY UNION: RENDALL AND REDFERN CHALLENGE TO FACE ALL BLACKS

## Smart pulls out of England squad

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Colin Smart, capped 17 times at loose head prop, withdrew from England's training squad at Stourbridge last night and, by inference, from contention for the England side to play New Zealand on November 19. He started the season late because of a suspension and damaged an Achilles tendon while training; that same injury has not yet cleared. Smart, aged 33, said yesterday: "I have had my eye on the All Blacks since the season started and perhaps I was rushing things too much."

He has played once for Newport's second team this season but has no possibility of achieving match fitness in time to make a second appearance against New Zealand - his first was in 1979.

His deputy on recent tour has been Rendall of Wasps, at 29 a thoroughly experienced player, who went with England to Argentina in 1981 and North America in 1982. He has yet to be capped but he played against Canada for England last month. He may be challenged by Stuart Redfern, of Leicester, an addition to the senior squad last month.

Redfern, at 15st 11lb, has not the

poundage, nor the experience of Rendall nor of White, the 34-year-old Gosforth prop who was a member of the training squad at Stourbridge and the Leicester day, showed notable mobility for the Midland division in their 21-15 Tuesday against the All Blacks, as well as holding his own in the set scrums against Davie, the New Zealand tight head prop, who was subsequently overlooked for the international against Scotland tomorrow.

Smart's club, Newport, will be the first visitors to a reseeded Rotherham tomorrow when Rosslyn Park, who have lived a nomadic

existence for the first two months of the season, return home to their refurbished ground. The demands of Surrey mean that Park will be unable to put out their strongest side, though a similar depletion did not stop them from beating Newcastle at Rodney Parade last Saturday. They include the first time at lock Edwards, a former colt.

This weekend will be the fourth in the London senior clubs under-21 competition in its inaugural season. Richmond are current leaders of the table, sponsored by Guinness, who have won both their games and tomorrow they play London Irish, who have had so much to do with the organising of the competition.

Attendances at matches so far

have been encouraging and it is hoped that all the London club senior sides will benefit directly within a couple of years from the competitive experience the under-21 games offer their promising players.

Two clubs who would expect to do well in the table, London Welsh and Wasps, have yet to play a game, the Wasps having been forced to postpone their opening match against Harlequins last weekend.

### Room with a view

Anyone following the example of Erika Roe and "streaking" at a major match at Twickenham is in for a cold and uncomfortable time.

The organizers of the Middlesex Sevens warned yesterday that anyone encroaching onto the playing area to "streak" will be taken "as they are, by special stewards to a room under the south stand."

"They will be detained therein until the end of the day when they will be taken to the local police station and charged with offensive behaviour. This will apply at all major matches at Twickenham".

## Crucial chance for Romania

By Gerald Davies

The Welsh Rugby Union have put in an order with the snooker manufacturers for several dozen sets of cues to take with them to Bucharest this weekend. "Andino doubt," said a pal, aware to the divine purpose some Welsh committee men feel for their task, "they will want to take some fishes with them as well."

The Welsh Rugby Union have always accepted their role as party to the divisional game and it is to spread the gospel, as it were, to emerging countries. But the consignment of loaves on this occasion at least is meant to supplement the deficiency in the deficiency their own players are expected to find in the Romanian diet.

Ever since 1962, when Canada came on tour, Wales have always encouraged visits from countries outside its national board members. Unlike the other three United Kingdom countries, whose rugby does not hold the public interest in the same way, such tours are guaranteed to be financial success in Wales so that costs for the tour can easily be recovered.

It was a risk, albeit a calculated one, to invite Fiji and Tonga, a little later, and Japan in 1973. They were all popular as well as financial successes. The tour recently finished by Japan, for example, will probably make a profit close to six figures.

The Romanians, on the other hand, were late arrivals and came in 1971 as the first national team from Eastern Europe to visit Britain. "And," says Ray Williams, the Welsh Rugby Union secretary, "when guests have visited your house they in turn are very eager to invite you back to theirs. And the Romanians have been asking for some time for Wales to play in their country".

There is another compelling reason. That first Welsh match ended with only one point separating the two sides, at 13-12, in the home side's favour. A drop goal by Gareth Davies decided the outcome late in the game. The Romanians won their four other

matches. There has been an obligation therefore for Wales to be put to the test against Romania at the August 23 Stadium in Bucharest.

Romania have been playing on a regular basis for the last 20 years and the results were invariably close, just as their first match with New Zealand two years ago was a hard-fought game with the All Blacks coming out winners by 14-6.

Last season Romania recorded their first victory by 13-9 against a full French XV. More often than not their opposition are the more modest ones of Europe. If they have accumulated a list of six successive victories, beginning with the one against France, they have done so against opposition such as Morocco, the Soviet Union, Italy, West Germany and Poland.

Only England, of the countries in the five nations championship, have yet to play Romania in a full international and that will come next year.

The results of these matches indicate that Romania may well seek to join the championship. But Ray Williams is not so certain.

### Morgan expelled

Mike Morgan, the former Newport player, has been told by Ebbw Vale that he is no longer a member of the club "for disciplinary reasons". The full back, aged 21, joined Vale at the start of the season and set a club record for the fastest century points, reaching the target in ten games.

Morgan admits to an argument

last Saturday with the chairman of school, Paul Gardner, after the defeat at Cheltenham. Deri Bees

played at full back against Swans

on Wednesday and has been

selected for Saturday's match at Cardiff.

### GYMNASICS

## Rhythm but no time for future British team

By Peter Aykroyd

Britain has stepped down from the key competition at the modern rhythmic gymnastics world championships which begin in Strasbourg today. However, three Britons - Jacqueline Leavy, Lorraine Priest and Julie Ramsden - will participate in the individual events.

The decision not to enter the 20 nations contest for groups of six women arose from a change of train policy last summer. It was decided by British Amateur Gymnastics Association to make national team training the responsibility of three leading clubs so that members could train together more frequently and thus achieve higher standards the sooner. Similar schemes have been adopted with success by other countries who are

modern rhythmic gymnastics is a graceful sport performed to music by women who combine gymnastic and balletic movement with artistic handling of hand apparatus such as clubs, ribbons, balls and hoops. It makes its Olympic debut at Los Angeles next July.

This is the first week of county championship matches. Tomorrow, Lancashire will be at Vicker's Ground, Barrow-in-Furness. Manchester League play Cheshire, while Northumbrian play Sheffield League.

Worcestershire unbeaten in two matches, the Midlands tomorrow.

The University of London Union has county status in the South territory, which means the under-graduates compete in both university matches and the stronger south county championship. On Sunday they will play Kent under-23 and next Wednesday they meet Southampton University away.

Derbyshire are at home to Warwickshire at Belper, while in the south, Middlesex meet Buckinghamshire at Bisham Abbey.

Sussex, who did well to draw 2-2 with Suffolk, meet Oxfordshire on Saturday at Hove county cricket ground.

Eleanor Tarbox, a very experienced county player, will captain Surrey against Hampshire at Alexandra Park, Portsmouth tomorrow.

### Administrators may change Rugby League laws again

## Kickers of dropped goals may get the order of the boot

When Danny Wilson kicked five dropped goals for Swinton against Hunslet on Sunday he surprised himself. For a man who had kicked only three in the previous three seasons with his club, he thereby broke the rugby league record for one point dropped goals in a match.

Little did he know that he was taking part in a glut of dropped goals. No fewer than 29 were kicked last weekend in the 15 John Player Cup ties, enough to set the game's administrators thinking about whether they should amend the laws to discourage the practice.

The dropped goal, generally regarded as one of the finest arts forms in the game, has ebbed and flowed in popularity. Twenty one years ago when Neil Fox kicked three for Wakefield Trinity at Wembley, dropping goals was rare. The four tackle rule, introduced in 1966, led to a revival, but that petered out in 1974 when it was devolved to one point in a bid to counterbalance the effects of the six tackle rule.

When this summer the "handover" law was made, many expected a flood of dropped goals and tactical kickings. British players, it was thought, would do anything rather than present the ball to the opposition at the sixth tackle.

That did not happen, in fact, on the first day of the season, when David Hobbs of Featherstone rifled the ball down the touchline until it dribbled into touch by the corner flag. One Yorkshireman was heard to boo. "He's

given Castleford head and ball doing that," he complained.

Unlike the Australians, to whom position is as important as possession, the British player, realizing the consequences of taking too often on their nervous systems, still guard the ball jealously.

Until last weekend that is, when Tony Kinsey, of Fulham, equalled the post-1974 record with four against Featherstone, so restructuring his position at the head of the League's rate of drop kickers, in a match that contained no fewer than eight dropped goals.

Was it exceptional? Indeed, closely fought cup matches do tend to produce their fair share of dropped goals. Yet, some believed that the rash has come 12 weeks later than expected; they say it was an inevitable consequence of the change in the laws this season.

A spokesman for the Rugby League said:

"Dropping a goal can be the simplest method of scoring, because of the game's structure.

Indeed, five tackles followed by a dropped kick, albeit worth only a single point, when done too often could well drive the crowds away,

Will the rugby league step in to change the laws yet again, perhaps disallowing goals dropped within the defending sides' 22? Only time will tell.

John Clemison

### FENCING

## High point for Britain

By a Special Correspondent

Linda Martin, of Britain, took third place in the women's foil at the third European fencing championship in Lisbon on Wednesday night. Miss Martin, 29, beat Delfina Stapska, of Poland, for the bronze medal.

This was Britain's best result in an international fencing event for many years although Miss Martin reached the final of the 1982 world championships in Rome. It augurs well for her chances next year in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The winner was Cornelia Hanisch, of West Germany, with the Italian number two, Carola Cicconi, in third place. Italy's world champion Donata Vaccaressi did not complete in the champion ship.

RESULTS: European Championships Women's F/C: Hanisch (W.G.B.) 2.C. Cicconi (Ital.) 3.L. Martin (GBR). Other medal placings: 11. M. McNamee; 18. A. Bramon.

### Handball chief

Jorg Bahrik, a 48-year-old German, has been appointed director-general of the International Handball Federation in Switzerland in succession to Friedhelm Peppenier, who died recently.

Further information and tender schedules available from: Mr. C. Poll, Australian Handball Association, Australia House, Strand WC2B 4LA. Telephone 011-438 6501.

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# Hundreds of would-be Olivers sing for their supper

Hundreds of children flocked to the Aldwych Theatre, London, yesterday to audition for the musical *Oliver!*, which opens on December 14 (Mark Rossini writes).

At stake were the parts of Fagin's gang of street urchins, and Oliver.

When the stage doors opened in the morning, the queue of hopefuls stretched around two sides of the building. Inside, parents were segregated quickly from their offspring.

The director, Mr Geoffrey Ferris, said: "We keep the parents away, so it can inhibit the children, as well as causing us problems.

"What we are looking for varies. Fagin's gang are rambunctious boys, vigorous, with plenty of life. 'Oliver' must have a glorious voice, and a quality of innocence.

"We do get tears, but girls are usually worse than boys at taking failure. We try to let them down gently."

Most were disappointed before seeing Mr Ferris, knocked out in the qualifying auditions, where batches of 10 boys were made to sing solo and in chorus.

The examiners eliminated quickly awkward shapes (children in Victorian workhouses did not tend to run fast).

One early qualifier was Neil Cooper, aged 11, from High Wycombe, on his first audition.

His mother, Mrs Shirley Cooper, said: "He dragged me here, he's always trying things out. He's a very determined boy."

Called by the director, Neil was given quick reassurance by a friendly stage veteran aged 12: "It'll be all right, do your best and sing out well".

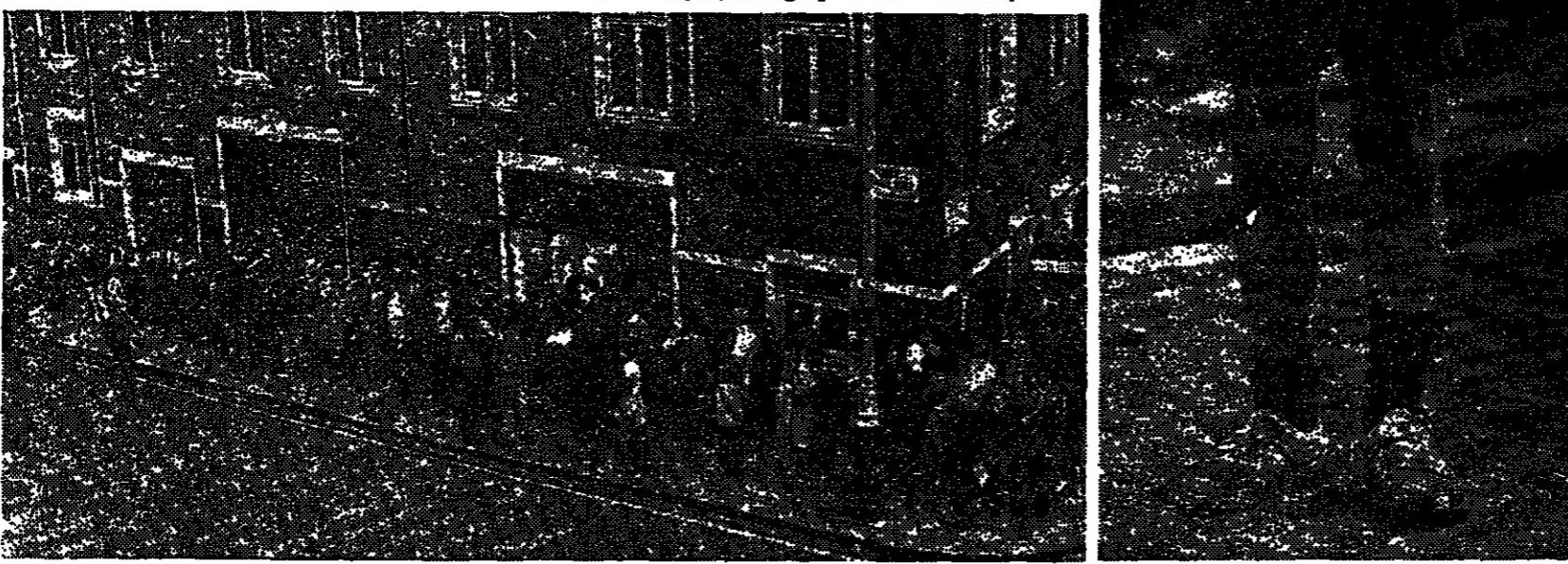
But for Neil there was no green ticket, the passport to the shortlist and today's dancing auditions.

Mrs Cooper took her son home, promising him that they would try again.

*Oliver!*, which stars Ron Moody as Fagin, will run until January 14.



Chorus line: Boys queuing for the *Oliver!* auditions yesterday. (Photographs: Brian Harris)



## Joint force ruled out

Continued from page 1

Commonwealth leaders would want to exacerbate divisions in the Caribbean about the legality of the American and Caribbean invasion of Grenada. The important thing was to try to be effective in terms of Grenada's needs as a Commonwealth member country.

The Commonwealth had a special duty to try to make the world a safer place for small states like Grenada as well as to make them safe for the world.

"When the dust of disquiet over Grenada has settled – indeed perhaps well before then – this issue of smallness must be confronted.

"Twice since Commonwealth heads of government met in Melbourne – in the South Atlantic and now in the Caribbean – smallness has been a factor in a major threat to world order".

Very small states were not just scaled-down versions of larger states, he said.

## Telecom engineers bow to court

Continued from page 1

The union members declared their determination to pursue with "renewed vigour" the campaign of industrial action against government privatisation plans for British Telecom but there was unofficial acceptance that the agreement to obey the injunction granted by Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls. The size of the majority backing the executive surprised some union officials but that support came after delegates heard dire warnings of the consequences of defiance. An initial fine of between £50,000 and £100,000

was likely to be imposed, they were told, followed by fines for each day that the injunction was not obeyed.

The conference was told by Mr Brian Stanley, the union general secretary: "If you vote against the national executive council you will be destroying this union. You have got to decide if we obey it now or in two weeks time when we have been smashed. It is not a question of if we obey, but when we obey."

Union officials were last night saying privately that the decision not to cooperate on youth training schemes was a reaction by delegates to the climbdown forced by the court injunction. In normal times the executive's proposals for jobs training would have been accepted.

The clash between British Telecom engineers and Mercury involves five minutes work with pliers and a screwdriver.

Leading article, page 13

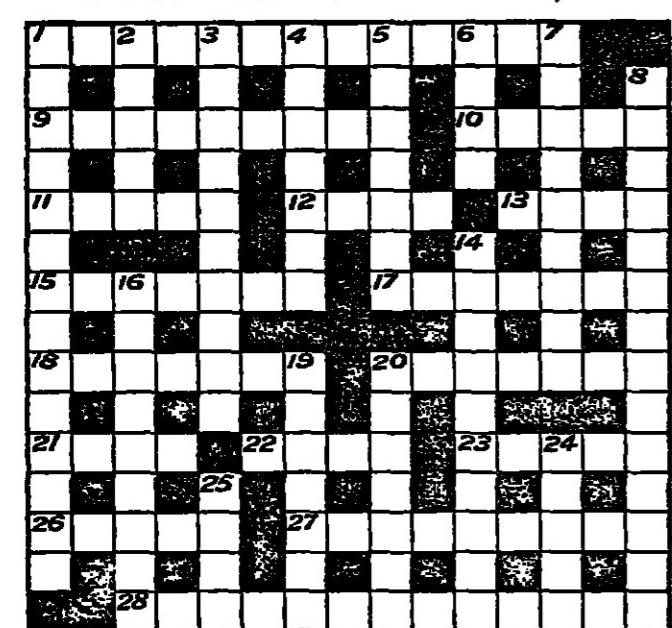
## Today's events

### Royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester opens a new war memorial convention on behalf of London and Quadrant Housing Association and Hunt Thomson Associates at Thame Tunnel Mills, Rotherhithe, 8.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, attends the Gardeners' Remembrance Service at St George's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, 11.37.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,284



**ACROSS**

- In the right set, with water supply assured? (4,9).
- Play, unrehearsed, is better outside? (9).
- After short time, supply tea or coffee? (5).
- Chap will ring – and probably hear his? (5).
- Bit of news producing some excitement? (4).
- Girl of 19 (4).
- Making cuts in private education here? (7).
- Illustrator requires lenient treatment? (7).
- Split up FBI agents in group? (7).
- Fool-spoken method of preparation for battle? (7).
- Observe Lawrence's initial disappearance? (4).
- Hide swindle? (4).
- Relatively close finisher of game? (5).
- Vehicle resentfully withdrawn? (5).
- Grandiose trip arranged? (9).
- WWII plane has to climb – doesn't go above Hurricane? (5).
- State of the floating pound? (14).
- See one learner copy another, making part of cost? (5).

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow  
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

## Food prices

Supplies of home-produced lamb have improved and prices have eased; whole legs cost £1.28 to £1.60 a pound in Dewhurst and Tesco, and whole shoulders 75p to 99p. Tesco have New Zealand shoulder at 68p and chops at 98p a pound, and Sainsbury's have New Zealand leg at £1.09. Beef and pork prices remain stable: topside and silversides range from £1.88 to £2.35 a pound, with minced beef and Sainsbury's and Fine Fare at 99p and brisket in Tesco at £1.50. Whole legs of lamb are 89p to £1.40 and boneless shoulders 90p to £1.30. Marks and Spencer have excellent chickens reduced to 69p a pound and fresh duck at 93p.

Continuing good weather has meant abundant supplies of fish: cod and haddock fillets average £1.29 and £1.32 a pound respectively; plaice £1.51, herring 69p and mackerel 47p.

Best vegetable buys this week include super-quality Brussels sprouts, 30-49p each, leeks 28p each, carrots 8-16p, swedes 12-16p and turnips 12-18p are all good quality and value.

Grapes remain a wonderful buy.

Italian and Spanish white Italys 50p, a pound, Spanish Almeria 35p. Cox's apples and 25-35p a pound. Raspberries 28-35p, French, Italian and Dutch Golden Delicious 22-30p. New season Spanish Navelina oranges are 10-22p each, and juicy, seedless satsumas 20-25p a pound for small sizes, 28-35p for larger ones.

Information supplied by the AA.

## Christmas post

Monday, November 14, is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas cards and parcels being sent by ship to Malta and Gibraltar, and to the Channel Islands, Cape Verde, Italy, Madeira, Portugal and Spain.

A leaflet, "Overseas Christmas Mail 1983" is available free from post offices.

## The pound

Bank Bank Bank Bank Bank

Australia \$ 1.68 1.60

Austria Sch 25.90 27.40

Belgium Fr 84.00 90.00

Canada \$ 1.89 1.92

Denmark Kr 14.77 14.87

Finland Mkk 5.82 5.82

France Fr 12.38 11.88

Germany DM 4.09 3.90

Greco Dr 155.00 147.00

Hongkong \$ 11.85 11.25

Ireland P 1.31 1.26

Italy Lira 2475.00 2365.00

Japan Yen 364.00 346.00

Netherlands Gld 4.60 4.37

Norway Kr 11.50 10.90

Portugal Esc 265.00 191.00

South Africa R 1.80 1.67

Spain Pta 236.50 227.50

Sweden Kr 12.14 11.57

UK £ 1.36 1.36

USA \$ 1.53 1.48

Yugoslavia Dinar 223.00 208.00

Rates for airmail and surface mail are set by Postage and Telegraphic Services.

Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index 339.5.

London: The FT Index closed down 1.2 at 720.6.

## Roads

London and South-east: A40: New layout on Western Avenue between Horsenden Lane and Medway Parade; long delays. A12: One lane northbound on Brentwood bypass, Essex. A32: Resurfacing on Woking Road, Guildford; and Stoke Road is closed southbound.

Wales and West: A429: Temporary signs Cirencester to Bourton, Gloucester, on North Leach bypass. A46 delayed in High Street, and Gloucester Street, Stow-on-the-Wold, roadworks at Bear Regis to Ringwood Road. A1 temporary signs in working hours at Henbury; restrictions at Wimborne; single lane only at St Ives.

Midlands and East Anglia: One carriageway south of Norman Cross, Cambridgeshire (Junction with A15) A1: Lanes closed at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire; A34: Roads at Headingley, Arden, Arden High Street.

North: A1: Southbound carriage way closed between junctions 38 and 39 (Ripponden to Wakefield). A1: One lane, temporary lights at Felton, bypass on River Conon, Bedlington, Northumberland. A523: Diversion N of Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Scotland: M74: Lanes closed on approach to junction 4 (Motherwell).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday:

East Anglia, E, Central N England:

Fog patches clearing slowly, sunny intervals; wind: max 11 to 13 (56 to 59 mph).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland:

Mainly cloudy, rain, brighter intervals later; wind: SE, moderate to fresh; max 13 to 15 (55 to 57 mph).

W Midlands, N, NE England, Lake District: Cloudy, bright intervals; patches of rain at times; E to ENE, moderate; max 13 to 15 (55 to 57 mph).

N England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Belt: Mainly cloudy, rain, brighter intervals well; wind: E, moderate to fresh; max 12 to 14 (54 to 57 mph).

High tides

TODAY

London Bridge 5.19 6.5 6.55

Aberdeen 3.02 3.1 3.17

Belfast 10.24 9.7 10.45

Cardiff 2.25 2.2 2.27

Dundee 2.25 2.2 2.27

Glasgow 5.37 4.8 5.42

Holyhead 3.14 3.1 3.17

Hotspur 10.14 9.8 10.15

Leeds 3.02 3.0 3.05

Liverpool 2.43 2.4 2.45

London 12.22 12.2 12.25

Edinburgh 5.22 5.1 5.21

Brighton 5.20 5.1 5.21

Newcastle 5.20 5.1 5.21

Plymouth 5.19 5.1 5.21

Portsmouth 5.18 5.1 5.21

Southampton 5.11 5.1 5.17

Swindon 2.40 2.4 2.42

Sheffield 7.45 7.5 7.54

Weymouth 7.45 7.5 7.54